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FINAL FOUR AND MORE INSIDE

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THE A&T REGISTER

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2008

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY

VOLUME LXXXI, NO. 26

NCATREGISTER.com

theYARD >>>

DO YOU ASK OR DO YOU TAKE?

One program looks at dating, relationships and sexual assault on campuses everywhere. **PAGE 2**

theWORLD >>>

BUSH ASKS FOR NATO'S HELP

President Bush asked NATO for help with a troop surge to keep the war in Afghanistan under control. **PAGE 4**

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WHAT DOES SUB PRIME MEAN?

Adjustable Rate Mortgages, Sub Prime lending and a turbulent economy? The Econ Boys have got you covered. **PAGE 5**

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WHERE THE HECK WAS MY NAME?

One student reacts to her name being missing from the ballot during recent SGA elections. **PAGE 6**

theSCORE >>>



FAMU TAKE TWO FROM AGGIES

FAMU came into War Memorial Stadium and took two of three games from the Aggies over the weekend.

theSCENE >>>

STUDENT ART GOES ON DISPLAY

Aggie artists got the chance to display their works during the Spring Art Exhibition in Dudley. **PAGE 8**

THE BEST SLICE IN TOWN?

Spring Garden area pizza shop puts its name in the argument for the best slice in town. **PAGE 8**

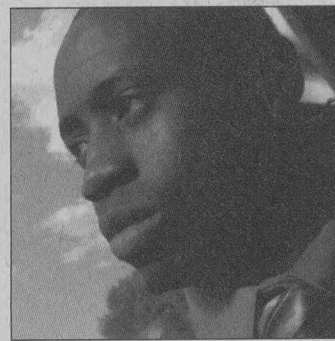
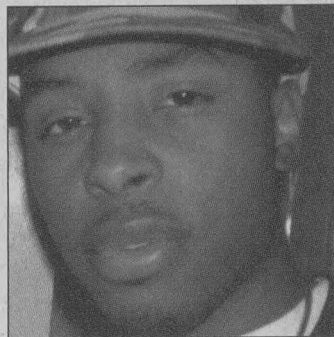
WEATHER >>>

Hi: 61°
Lo: 41°

THURSDAY: Showers | High 46°
FRIDAY: T-Storms | High 72°

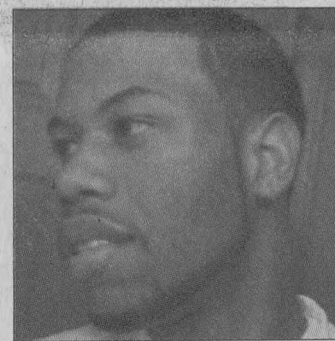
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CHASING THE DREAM

40 years after his death, students reflect on Martin Luther King's life, legacy and dream



One bullet ended one life, one day in Memphis, Tenn. 40 years ago. The affect that one life had on the lives of millions of African-Americans and others in this country is still being felt today as we work to actively keep one dream alive throughout multiple lifetimes. That one man was able to rally many people around one common cause that opened doors for Americans of all races to pass through one after another.

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CAMPUS ELECTIONS



PHOTO BY LEROY MIKELL - REGISTER

FRESH FACES: The 2008-09 Student Government Association executive board has been elected and the group is ready to lead the Aggie community through 'Rehab.'

Ready for rehab

Newly elected SGA members determined to restore old school Aggie Pride

MICHAEL J. MCCRAY
Editor In Chief

Rehab, rehab, rehab. It's all that newly elected Student Government Association president Marcus Bass can talk about these days.

The platform for his campaign is a step closer to reality after SGA elections wrapped up Monday evening with a run-off between Amber Nave and eventual winner Tanisha Fordham for Miss A&T locked down the final piece of next school year's SGA executive board.

The 2008-09 SGA Executive Board brings together a diverse group of students, many of whom had nothing more than a passing relationship with each other prior to being elected.

Jaron Jones, a junior from Greenville, N.C., will serve as

vice president for internal affairs after getting over 59 percent of the vote against Natalie Gwishiri.

Justin Blake, a junior from Copperas Cove, Texas, will serve as vice president for external affairs. Blake beat out Anthony Stevens for the position.

Dominic Jones, a junior from Bowie, Md., edged out Alex Brown to become SGA secretary.

Jennifer Monique James and Robert Braswell ran unopposed for their positions. James will serve as treasurer and Braswell will serve as attorney general.

Tanisha Fordham was the only executive board member who had to have a run-off for her position and she edged out Amber Nave after being behind just 12 votes after the general elections.



GET TO KNOW YOUR NEW MISS A&T

Tanisha Fordham is the 2008-09 Miss A&T. Meet her and the rest of the Executive Board.

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Obama and "Change" hit the Boro

LASHAWN PARKER
Managing Editor

Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama felt the love at the War Memorial Auditorium Wednesday, March 26 during his campaign tour

Many stood in line for hours outside, then waited patiently for over an hour inside before Obama approached the stage to speak.

Obama supporters anxiously awaited the Illinois senator's to deliver an awe inspiring speech about his plan to restore hope in American government and leadership. Obama was preaching to the choir, choosing to address major issues like health care, education, economics and foreign policy.

He assured the crowd of his views and how his contrasted from other presidential hopefuls. After getting through a lengthy standing ovation and a couple well-timed 'I love you Barack'

screams, Obama opened with a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King stressing the "fierce urgency of now" as his inspiration for running.

"We can not afford to wait," said Obama. "We can not wait to fix the schools, to fix health care, to bring good jobs back and bring this war to an end."

Right in line with the hallmarks of his campaign, Obama said togetherness is what convinces him that things can change.

"Ordinary people can do extraordinary things when they're given a chance," said Obama.

Education is an issue that will have a huge hand in how the next generation competes internationally.

Obama, who worries that American children are not able to compete internationally for jobs or in the realm of education and graduation rates are very low.

Those who have graduated

from school have shown to have a relatively low reading level. In order to change this, Obama plans to invest in early childhood education from birth through college graduation.

He wants to give a \$4000 tuition credit to college students in exchange for doing community service.

"We'll invest in young people, they'll invest in America and together we'll march forward," said Obama.

In improving the quality of education he wants to increase teacher salaries, abandon the No Child Left Behind Act that teaches children to standardized tests and increase knowledge in math, art, music, science and reading.

Obama's views on the economy, the impending recession and the struggling job market were tied directly to President Bush's "ownership society" and

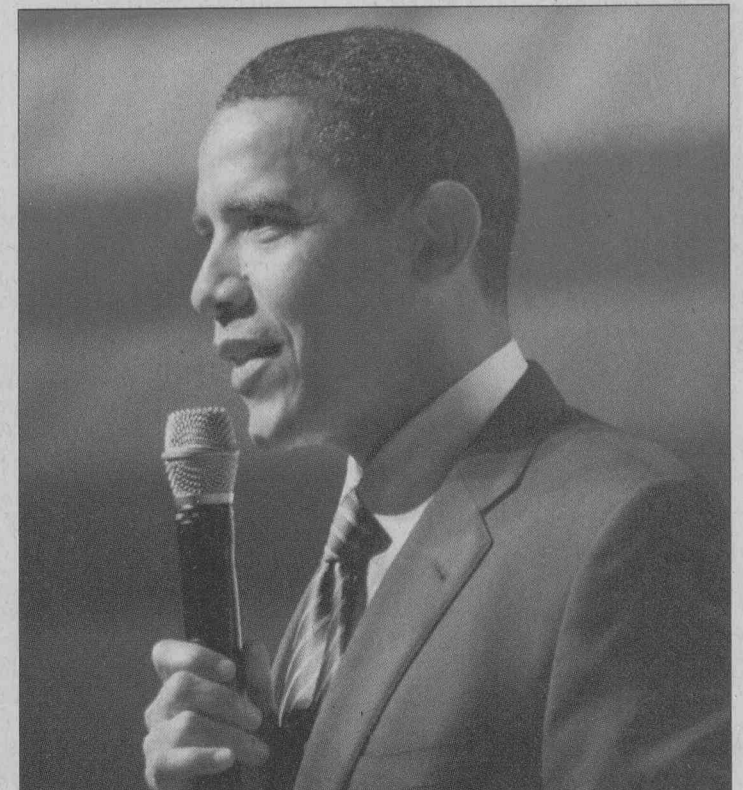


PHOTO BY LEROY MIKELL - REGISTER

BARACK OBAMA spoke to a crowd of thousands at War Memorial Auditorium last Wednesday.

► See **OBAMA** on Page 2

CHASING THE DREAM



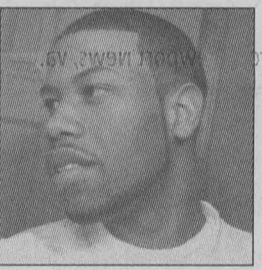
"The state of black America is in disarray, if Dr. King was alive today he'll be disappointed."
- Dexter Mullins, 20

"I feel that his dream is still a dream and that black people are more divided in the present day than we were then. In certain aspects he would be happy about how far we've come but we still have a long way to go. You have people like Barack Obama, but besides him who else is there?"
- Brittany Dandy, 20



"I would say that the 'dream' is somewhat still alive because he wanted us to do these great things like become doctors, lawyers, and have leadership positions which we do have and didn't have them back then. But I feel like morally when he looked at black on black crime and things like that he would be disappointed."
- Catrese Parks, 19

"I think we've come a mighty long way. I think he would actually be happy to see the progress that we've made from what they had to endure to what we have now. Today we're fighting a different battle and it's against ourselves. We need more prominent black leaders that can lead today's youth, adults, and anybody else. But overall I think he would be proud."
- Brian Bennett, 19



"I feel that we've come a long way since the time that his speech was made. I know that he would feel better about our situation now than he would before because we have more rights and freedoms. But there still is some prejudice and racism going on but it's not to the extent that it was back then, so I feel that we've progressed a lot and we're still working towards his ultimate dream of not seeing a person for their color but seeing a person for what they are."
- Tristan Cooper, 19

Obama welcomed by thousands in Greensboro

OBAMA From page 1

feels it has started a "you're on your own" society.

"There's no such thing as a thriving Wall Street and a crumbling Main Street," said Obama. He wants to bring jobs back here from overseas.

He wants to put an end to home foreclosures and provide mortgage tax credit as a form of relief to those who have lost their homes and wants to implement a foreclosure prevention plan.

He feels foreclosures lead to a decrease in property value, which leads to a decrease in purchases, which causes the economy to become stagnant. The economy has also been heavily effected by the war in Iraq.

Obama used the war in Iraq in his speech as a way to hammer home the fact that he was against it from the start and to go at Republican presidential nominee John McCain.

"Why spend a billion dollars on a war when we can keep that money here," said Obama.

Obama wants to end the war starting in 2009. He wants the troops to return to Afghanistan and also give them adequate training. He feels there are two wars going on, the one we have been distracted from and the one involving Al-Qaeda and Bin Laden.

Obama assured the audience that, if need be, he would do whatever it took to protect our country in the event someone brought harm to us but he doesn't believe in fighting a hundred year war and continuing failed policies of our previous president as his opponent, McCain, has insisted on.

"We don't need more Bush," said Obama. "We don't need a third bush term and that's what John McCain is promising."

Obama also spoke about treating veterans right and using the military wisely.

His views on healthcare were plans to either decrease costs by \$2500 for households or subsidize health care for

those who cannot afford it. He also offered a health care plan similar to that of Congress. He wants to give war veterans better benefits as well. He feels politics should lift people up and lobbyist in D.C. don't represent real people as Senator Clinton has said.

"They shut out the voice of the people," said Obama of lobbyists.

Obama then delivered a backhanded compliment to Clinton saying, "Senator Clinton is a smart and capable person," then explaining why he disagrees with her about lobbyists, evoking ovations about how "the people" fund him.

"I got one money order for \$3 from a woman and I appreciated it," said Obama.

The senator also addressed his views on poverty in America. "We have to remind ourselves that in a nation as wealthy as this, there shouldn't be deeply impoverished people," said Obama.

He says basic needs for food, shelter and healthcare should be met but for any of that to happen a change had to come from the American people.

"In the end, we can't do this unless all of have a change of heart about what America is all about," said Obama

A brief question and answer session after his speech allowed his supporters to get a better understanding of his views and his signature personality which is what has attracted many young voters.

In preparation for the Democratic primary in North Carolina on May 6, the Obama campaign has opened a Greensboro office on Friendly Avenue. There will also be a statewide college tour to encourage voter registration before the April 11 deadline, especially with the unprecedented increase in youth involvement in this year's election.

Actors Shawn and Marlon Wayans are helping Obama in his efforts in N.C. by speaking at Wake Forest, WSSU, UNCG, A&T, NCCU and N.C. State.

events

WEDNESDAY

2

More Than A Job, More Than A Business?
NCB Auditorium
4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m., FREE

Getting Down To Business
Merrick Auditorium
7:30 p.m., FREE

FBI War Against Black America
NCB Auditorium
8 p.m., FREE

Virginia Aggie Interest Meeting
Memorial Student Union Room 209
8 p.m., FREE

THURSDAY

3

Impact Bible Study
Curtis Hall
7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Girl Talk: No Holds Barred
NCB Auditorium
7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

4

A Beautiful Mind, A Beautiful You
NCB Auditorium
7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

5

Softball vs. WSSU
Lady Aggies Softball Complex
1 p.m. (Doubleheader), FREE

SUNDAY

6

Softball vs. WSSU
Lady Aggies Softball Complex
Noon, FREE

MONDAY

7

n/a

TUESDAY

8

YTC "I Testify" Fashion Show
Memorial Student Union
Stallings Ballroom
7 p.m., FREE

Don't forget all the stories we couldn't fit into these 8 pages are available online at **NCATREGISTER.com**

Also check out exclusive podcasts, slideshows and commentaries from the Aggie community.

Do you ask or do you take?

Program looks at dating, relationships and sexual assault

ASHLEY REID
Register Reporter

When it comes to dating and relationships, it is important to know what's healthy for a relationship and what's not.

The Residence Hall Association hosted a program called "Can I Kiss You?" last Wednesday in Harrison Auditorium.

Mike Domitrz hosted the program with a unique and thoughtful approach to dating, relationships, and sexual assault.

Everyone knows about the game, and what it takes to pull the right guy or girl, but Domitrz raised the question: Why not just ask for what you really want?

Of course when he asked the audience, replies from fear, all the way to rejection came screaming out of everyone's mouth. Domitrz explained that rejection is not really feared by many if they try over and over again and control is not an issue

if there is honesty.

"It's a little selfish excuse to fear rejection," said Domitrz. "If two people can talk about what they want, no one is losing control."

Sophomore Nakisha Midder enjoyed the Domitrz explanation of rejection.

"I like that he proved men aren't in fact afraid of rejection, but just try to avoid it," said Midder.

Domitrz also talked about roles in relationships. Traditional gender roles call for a woman to want her man to just know what she wants without her telling him, but Domitrz explained how tradition has many flaws.

"Tradition has taught women to play a certain role in relationships, so if tradition does not give you your full rights why continue to follow it?" said Domitrz.

After the relationship area, Domitrz moved on to a more serious topic, sexual assault.

He explained that it is the role of the woman or man to ask for anything they want, because the worst thing that could happen is to get "no" as a response. You should always have the consent of the other person before any intimate move is made.

Domitrz gave a personal story of sexual assault, statistics on rape and educated the audience on what they could do to prevent it.

"I thought that was so cool of him to mention and share that piece of his life with us," said Midder.

"It was most important to let young people know that you have to ask whether it is a male or female, friend or no friend; you need permission," said Residence Hall director Elizabeth Cooper.

Ten percent of sexual assaults are reported and seven percent of those cases are said to be false because they are eventually dropped. One in every four women has been or

will be raped in their lifetime, and more importantly, rape is a battle that African-American women have dealt with since slavery.

For a long time it wasn't considered rape in any black women's case. The sexual violence rate for black women is estimated to be around 40 percent by the age of 18.

Domitrz believes that we can stop this type of crime by correcting and educating each other.

Cooper shared her thoughts on why she felt this program was so important to all college students.

"I wanted the freshmen to hear this because they are so trusting," said Cooper.

"They don't really know a person, but they still go; it's important for us to educate our residents this issue."

"Teach each other to ask," said Domitrz. "Open at least three doors to three people you know and tell them that if they

Want to know more?

Search for Mike Domitrz's books and programs online and visit the website www.canikissyou.com

THE A&T REGISTER

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Not your average Miss A&T

ASHLEY WITHERS
News Editor

An artist, an actress, a singer, an athlete, what hasn't she done?

Tanisha Fordham is a modern day "Renaissance Woman" she is now our next Miss North Carolina A&T State University 2008-2009. Fordham won the election by over 300 votes.

"I believe staying true to who I have been since the beginning of the campaign is why I won," says Fordham.

Coming from Tonawanda, 10 minutes outside of Buffalo, N.Y. this small-town girl is not new to the adrenaline rush of campaigning.

Being elected as class president her freshman year at A&T, elected as Vice President of her Sophomore year, ran for Miss Junior the following year and now standing with the winning votes of Miss A&T, Fordham has come along way.

Her ad campaign consisted of posters, promise rings that promised her loyalty and individuality and one on one conversations with A&T students. She also had a helpful group of close friends who would greet people from door-to-door in support of her campaign.

"People could appreciate people who are personable," says Fordham.

When asked what her first thoughts and feelings about winning Miss A&T, she responds with a sincere smile.

"I'm shocked. I'm just still

in shock."

With the stress of elections, campaigning and still maintaining a full workload, Fordham made a unique decision.

"Everyday since February 29 I have watched Rocky 6. Why? Because Rocky was the underdog, yet he continued to persevere. I believe perseverance led me to this day."

Less than 24 hours crowned Miss A&T, Fordham is already busy with meetings, photo-shoots and work. Looking at her photos she explains how she represents the university.

"I like to try to be the face of every facet of A&T whether it be faculty, students, or alumni," she said.

As you know Fordham is not your common Miss A&T compared to the last girls that have reigned these past years. She is one who wears her golden fro proudly and would strut in a dashiki or a plain t-shirt, it makes no difference to her.

The Journalism and Mass Communication major, Fordham is ready for change this upcoming year.

"One thing I really want to do is cut down the cost of coronation as much as possible and use that money for scholarships and effective programs."

Bringing back block parties, dorm storms and café nights are other events that Fordham wants to see happen more on campus.

Fordham was class president her freshman year at A&T and ran for class president junior



PHOTO BY LEROY MIKELL - REGISTER

TANISHA FORDHAM was elected Miss A&T in a run-off Monday evening.

year, but lost by 12 votes.

She believes communicating with Aggie students is the best way to inform them about events and programs around campus.

"Where students are at, that is where we need to be. Obviously students are not sitting in the student government association office, and we don't need to be either."

Fordham is also the director and founder of Enlightened Visions, a corporation that en-

hances the positive aspects of media instead of negative ones. Enlightened Visions include a talk show, radio show and magazine.

Fordham tries to live by the words of Ghandi and "be the change."

While others now know her as Miss North Carolina A&T, Fordham remains humble through it all.

"Honestly, I'm just Tanisha."

Meet the E-Board



SGA PRESIDENT
Marcus Bass

Marcus is a 21-year-old junior Marketing Education major from Clinton, N.C.



VP FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS
Jaron Jones

Jaron is a 21-year-old junior Soil Science major from Greenville, N.C.



VP FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
Justin Blake

Justin is a 20-year-old junior Manufacturing Systems and Technology major from Copperas Cove, Texas.



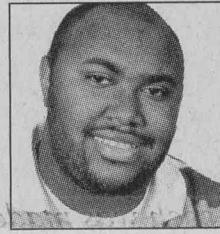
SECRETARY
Dominic Jones

Dominic is a 20-year-old junior Graphics Communications Systems major from Bowie, Md.



TREASURER
Jennifer M. James

Jennifer is a 20-year-old junior Mathematics and Secondary Education major from Fayetteville, N.C.



ATTORNEY GENERAL
Robert Braswell

Robert is a 21-year-old junior Broadcast Production major from Newport News, Va.

Your school. Your news. Your paper.

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North Carolina A&T State University



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WWW.PIN.ED.GOV

- Complete Your FAFSA

WWW.FAFSA.ED.GOV

President Bush empowers allies wants troop surge in Afghanistan

MATTHEW LEE
Associated Press

Romania President Bush renewed urgent calls Wednesday for NATO nations to allow Ukraine and Georgia to start the admission process over Russian objections and to counter Osama bin Laden's latest threats to Europe by stepping up their efforts in Afghanistan.

In a speech ahead of a summit of leaders from the trans-Atlantic alliance here this week, Bush also said that he remained committed to building a U.S. missile defense system in Europe that Moscow fiercely opposes and that the United States would not abandon Iraq with precipitous troop withdrawals.

On the eve of his last NATO summit, Bush lobbied fellow leaders on behalf of NATO expansion. He said the alliance should be open to all European democracies, for now the former Soviet republics Ukraine and Georgia but also others in the future. Arguing against the misgivings from France and Germany that opening the process to Ukraine and Georgia could overly harm relations with Moscow, a needed energy supplier, Bush said a larger NATO is not a threat to Russia.

"We must make clear that NATO welcomes the aspirations of Georgia and Ukraine for membership in NATO and offers them a clear path forward toward that goal," the president said. "NATO should welcome Georgia and Ukraine into the Membership Action Plan."

"And NATO membership must remain open to all of Eu-

rope's democracies that seek it, and are ready to share in the responsibilities of NATO membership," he said.

The speech allowed Bush to forcefully make his case on all of his top NATO agenda items, getting the stage in the summit host city virtually to himself before the meetings get underway Wednesday night. He addressed about 500 local political and business leaders in a marble hall distinctive for its two glass-topped domes. Bush also was seeing NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer before the summit's official launch at a Cotroceni Palace dinner.

But Bush and his wife, Laura, left Bucharest after the speech to spend most of the day in the Black Sea resort of Neptun, where Bush was holding talks with Romanian President Traian Baescu, the country's pro-western leader and official host of the alliance's meeting.

In his speech, Bush praised Romania and its people for their contributions to NATO and to the war in Iraq.

"The Romanian people have seen evil in their midst and they have seen evil defeated," he said. "They value freedom, because they have lived without it. And this hard experience has inspired them to fight and sacrifice for the liberty of others."

Bush also called for NATO members to boost troop contributions to Afghanistan, where there are fears that Taliban and al-Qaida extremists are resurging. He noted that bin Laden in a recent audiotape had renewed threats to strike in Europe.

"We need to take the words

of the enemy seriously," the president said. "The terrorist threat is real, it is deadly, and defeating this enemy must be the top priority of the NATO alliance."

"If we were to let up the pressure, the extremists would re-establish safe havens across the country, and use them to terrorize the Afghan people and threaten our own," he said. "Our alliance must maintain its resolve and finish the fight in Afghanistan."

On missile defense, Bush said the plans to base the shield in NATO members Poland and the Czech Republic were critical to defending against threats posed by rogue nations like Iran.

"Today, we have no way to defend Europe against this emerging threat, so we must deploy ballistic missile defenses here that can," he said.

Bush restated his position that the project is not aimed at Russia.

"The Cold War is over," he said. "Russia is not our enemy. We are working toward a new security relationship with Russia whose foundation does not rest on the prospect of mutual annihilation."

Bush will meet twice this week with outgoing Russian President Vladimir Putin who has cast doubt on the need for missile defense, but has also suggested that the United States cooperate with his country if it intends to proceed. Bush said he was willing to incorporate some of Putin's suggestions, but would not abandon the plan.

Zimbabwe Elects new President

ANGUS SHAW
Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Morgan Tsvangirai acts as if he has already been declared Zimbabwe's president.

"For years we have trod a journey of hunger, pain, torture and brutality," he told reporters in his first public comments since Saturday's elections. "Today we face a new challenge of governing and rehabilitating our beloved country, the challenge of giving birth to a new Zimbabwe founded on restoration not retribution, on love not war."

The Zimbabwe Electoral Commission has yet to release returns from the presidential vote, but Tsvangirai insists he defeated President Robert Mugabe. And he denied reports that he was negotiating to ease out Mugabe, who has led the country from liberation to economic collapse over the past 28 years.

Tsvangirai said Tuesday he was waiting for an official announcement of the results before he would enter talks with Mugabe. But he asserted that he got more than the 50 percent simple majority needed for victory.

Mugabe, 84, has made no statement about the election.

Tensions rose as the days passed without an official announcement on the presidential vote, and some people stayed home from work. A senior police officer, Wayne Bvudzijena, went on state radio to say: "Our forces are more than ready to deal with perpetrators of violence."

Paramilitary police have stepped up patrols in the capital, Harare, and in Bulawayo, the second-largest city, and

roadblocks have been set up at strategic entries to Harare. The opposition has most of its support in urban centers.

As Zimbabweans waited for the returns, "our country is on a precipice, on a cliff edge," said Tsvangirai, head of the Movement for Democratic Change.

In Washington, Gordon Johndroe, spokesman for the National Security Council, said "it's clear the people of Zimbabwe have voted for change. It's time for the Zimbabwean Electoral Commission to confirm the results we have all seen from the local polling stations and respected NGOs."

The Zimbabwe Election Support Network, a coalition of 38 Zimbabwe civil society organizations, said its random representative sample of polling stations showed Tsvangirai won just over 49 percent of the vote and Mugabe 42 percent. Simba Makoni, a former Mugabe loyalist, trailed at about 8 percent.

On Tuesday, a businessman close to the state electoral commission and a lawyer close to the opposition said aides to Tsvangirai and Mugabe were negotiating a graceful exit for the president. Both spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue.

However, Tsvangirai said "there are no discussions," adding, "let's wait for ZEC to complete its work."

The businessman said Mugabe has been told he is far behind Tsvangirai in preliminary results and that he might have to face a runoff. He said the prospect was humiliating for Mugabe, and that was why the president was considering ceding power.

The situation remained fragile and could deteriorate without a Mugabe resignation.

Martin Rupiya, a military analyst at South Africa's Institute for Strategic Studies and a former lieutenant-colonel in the Zimbabwe army, said he had heard of the military's involvement in negotiations for Mugabe to step down.

The election result "has compelled the military, the hawkish wing and the other moderate, to begin to reconsider accommodating the opposition," he said. "Because of the nature of the wins they have been forced to reassess."

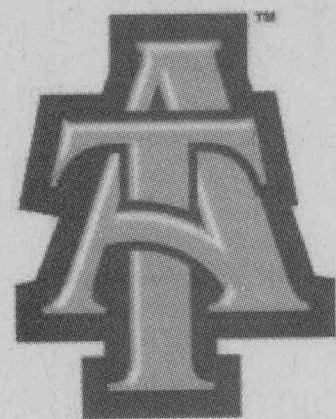
Political analyst John Makumbe said he had learned from military sources that they would respect the results of the elections. Last week, security chiefs had warned they would not serve anyone but Mugabe and would not tolerate an opposition victory.

The Electoral Commission has released results for 182 of the 210 parliamentary seats — giving Tsvangirai's party 92 seats, including five for a breakaway faction, to 90 for Mugabe's ruling party. At least six Cabinet ministers lost their seats, according to the official results.

Zimbabweans fear that Mugabe may declare himself the winner, as he has in previous elections that observers said were marked by rigging, violence and intimidation.

Should he consider stepping down, he would have to weigh the concerns of those who have profited from his patronage, including military leaders, party officials and businesspeople. They have received mining concessions, construction contracts and preferential licenses.

The economy is in dramatically worse shape. recent years with inflation now the highest in the world.



Office of the Registrar Attention Graduating Seniors!

**Spring Commencement
Saturday, May 10, 2008
Greensboro Coliseum**

www.ncat.edu/~newsinfo/announcements/spring_08/Commencement_Spring_2008.pdf

Reminders

- **Academic Clearance**
Meet with your academic advisor now to ensure that you have met all of the academic requirements for graduation.
- **Financial Clearance**
Access your online Aggie Student Account to ensure financial clearance.
- **Academic Regalia**
Order your cap and gown online at www.jostens.com
March 21 – April 16, 2008
- **Mandatory Commencement Rehearsal**
Friday, March 9, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.
Corbett Sports Center

Pray for the day

Can you miss a day of work for religion and keep your job?

CANDACE CHOI
Associated Press

Q. What are my rights when requesting time off work for religious reasons?

A. For companies with more than 15 people, federal law requires employers to "reasonably accommodate" an employee's religious beliefs. Employers are exempt only if they can show the accommodation would cause an "undue hardship" on business.

Examples of accommodations include shift swaps, flexible scheduling or use of lunch time in exchange for early departure.

Employers generally do not have to pay workers for time off taken for religious reasons, however, so workers should arrange to use vacation or unpaid personal days. So long as religious needs are accommodated, the employer is not obligated to meet specific requests preferred by the worker.

Workers are not required to provide proof of their religious beliefs to employers, such as notes from a member of the clergy.

Growing diversity in the workplace is one reason for the spike in religious discrimination filings with the federal government, said David Grinberg, spokesman for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

"Some employers are having growing pains in adjusting their policies to comply with the law," he said.

Last year, there were about 2,900 religious discrimination filings with the EEOC, up 13 percent from 2006 and double the number in 1992. There are likely many more cases that go unreported for fear of

retaliation or lack of awareness about federal protections, Grinberg said.

Of last year's filings, 375 complaints regarded accommodations, which would include matters such as taking time off for religious holidays or wearing religious clothing in the workplace.

Only a small percentage of religious discrimination filings with the EEOC result in the government suing the employer, but individuals may decide to pursue litigation on their own.

Federal law caps damages in discrimination lawsuits depending on the size of the business. Companies with 15 to 100 employees may be liable for damages up to \$50,000, while bigger operations with 500 or more workers could be liable for as much as \$300,000 in damages. Those limits do not include backpay.

Potential employers are not allowed to question job applicants about their religion or whether their religion would prevent them from working certain days. While employees certainly have rights when it comes to religion, they should nevertheless make it a point to let managers know about religious commitments when they're hired or immediately upon becoming observant, according to the Anti-Defamation League. Some states have laws requiring employees to notify their employer a certain number of days before each absence.

Showing such sensitivity and respect for different religious beliefs could help boost productivity and keep retention rates up, Bennett said.

KENTAVIUS WHITT
and **COLIN OKOYE**
Contributors

Do you know what has overwhelmingly contributed to the crisis our economy is experiencing now? Stop thinking, the Econ Boys got you covered.

The answer to that question is sub prime lending. What is sub prime lending you ask, and what does that have to do with A.R.M. (Adjustable Rate Mortgages) and Hammer? That is precisely the question we hoped you would ask.

Everyone at some point in life will have the golden opportunity to purchase a home. You have probably noticed that the American economy is on the verge of an economic downturn.

However, some like the Federal Reserve and others state that we are not in a recession because we do not have negative output growth.

In laments terms, we still produce more goods and services than we did last year, and hence cannot officially classify our current problem as a recession. Even if people are feeling the effects of what's to come, we would not know the recession started until six months into the monsters mouth.

There is a killer-whale sized catch waiting to bite the head off of your disposable income in the years to come.

Sub prime means your credit is not good or prime. Sub prime lenders provide sub prime loans.

These loans prey on the millions of people in America with bad credit. If you have bad credit and a lender tells you it's possible to purchase a home with little or no money for down payment at the time of purchase?

Usually a down payment is 10 percent up front. That means on a mortgage of \$200,000 you would need \$20,000 dollars. What would you say? Would this be too good to be true? There has to be a catch, right?

The catch is you pay nothing down and get a lower interest rate for a specific period of time. After that time passes your interest rate balloons to a rate that makes your payments spike.

We call this the A.R.M. and Hammer effect. This forces your payment from hypothetically

\$1,200 per month to \$2,400 per month. This may hurt a great deal considering your salary probably didn't increase by that same proportion. You now have to figure out how to come up with the difference.

In most households, people have yet to find a way to pay the difference, so in essence, they are what we nationally call bums or homeless.

The chart presented below illustrates the foreclosure, when the bank seizes your house for nonpayment, and past due rates on A.R.M.'s and total loans. We used loan data from the Southeast portion of America tabulated by USA Today.

(Source: Mortgage Bankers Association)

	Total Loans	Total Loans Past Due	Total in Foreclosure	A.R.M.'s Past Due	A.R.M.'s in Foreclosure	% Increase Past Due Loans	% Increase Foreclosures
Florida	3,486,884	6.47%	2.19%	19.58%	11.54%	203%	427%
Georgia	1,625,578	7.93%	1.65%	22.66%	9.14%	186%	454%
North Carolina	1,396,350	6.23%	1.09%	21.76%	6.44%	249%	491%
South Carolina	655,672	6.46%	1.68%	20.48%	10.02%	217%	496%
Virginia	1,417,934	4.41%	0.73%	19.64%	6.62%	345%	807%

As you can see from these stats, the total loans past due are significantly lower than the A.R.M. loans past due.

In North Carolina, there is a 249 percent Formula. It says the (A.R.M. past due - total loans past due) increase, over the same period of time, between total loans past due and A.R.M. Loans past due.

Remember that A.R.M. loans are already factored into the total loans past due, causing the number to be already higher than normal.

Depressingly, the percentage increase for foreclosure rates in the same state is 491 percent the Formula is (A.R.M. Foreclo-

sure - Total Foreclosure) / Total Foreclosure. As you can see, N.C. is a reasonably controlled state.

Examine the other four states to get an accurate picture of the problem. Now you can see why the financial sectors including the stock market, banks, and investment bankers are in such an uproar.

The only remedy the Federal Reserve seems to offer is to drop the interest rates.

The Federal Reserve drops the interest rate to their projected target by buying bonds, which injects money into the economy, hence makes the interest rates fall to their projected

levels.

Since banks make their profit with higher interest rates, this gives no incentive for banks to lend an extra incentive for consumers to borrow.

This gives way to the term cheap money, which means two things: First, money will be worth less with more currency in the economy and secondly, the consumer can borrow and pay the bank less interest for the favor. This cheap money process is a catch 22 because your money can buy you less, but then again you can get more money from institutions for less.

The A.R.M. and Hammer process has broken the hous-

ing market and placed millions of Americans in the midst of a credit crunch. Where money is cheap and hard to obtain, foreclosure rates are at an all time high, and the Financial Markets are dropping like it's hot.

In short, make sure when you buy a home it does not have an A.R.M. that carries an interest rate hammer that will eventually nail your rates to a balloon taking you to the land of homelessness or big payments.

We are the Econ Boys, keeping you abreast of what is going on locally and globally. We wholeheartedly thank you for your time and appreciate your optical space.

North Carolina A & T State University

SUMMER 2008 Refund Schedule

- Summer I Session Friday, May 30, 2008
- Dual Session Friday, May 30, 2008
- Summer II Session Thursday, July 10, 2008

FALL 2008 Refund Schedule

- Continuing Full-Time Students Friday, August 22, 2008
- New Freshmen Students Friday, September 5, 2008
- Transfer Students Friday, September 5, 2008
- Part Time Students Friday, September 5, 2008
- First-time Direct Loan Borrowers Friday, September 26, 2008

- Get Your Refund QUICKER!
- Sign Up for Direct Deposit NOW!
- Get Your Direct Deposit Enrollment Form in Office of the Treasurer

Where was my name on election day?

BRIANNA TAYLOR
Contributor

"The teenagers and college students who left their homes to march in the streets of Birmingham and Montgomery; — they didn't brave fire hoses and Billy clubs so that their grandchildren and their great-grandchildren would still wonder at the beginning of the 21st century whether their vote would be counted; whether their civil rights would be protected by their government; whether justice would be equal and opportunity would be theirs. . . . We have more work to do."

—Barack Obama, Speech at Howard University, September 28, 2007.

The main reason people are so fond of Obama is because he speaks of change, he wants to rewire the one-way phone-lines of politics to make sure that citizen's voices are truly being heard.

He has spoken of ending deceptive voting practices on several occasions and he just may be able to do that but should we cross our fingers and hope he gets into office in order to evoke

this change?

I believe that we, A&T students, have the ability to begin the ripple effect and start right here on our own campus, because just as politics in the United States government has somewhat turned it's back on the people they are supposed to be serving in the interest of, the elections committee is doing the same thing on in our own back yard.

Year after year candidates arise to stand as leaders on A&T's campus just to be shot down and disqualified over rules that are not clearly stated and force you to rely on assumptions. It continues to get worse and that is because no one has challenged those rules or those whom we appoint to uphold them.

If you are unfamiliar with the Elections Committee it is comprised of students whose purpose is to uphold protocol & rules during the election process, keep track of financial disclosure forms and to maintain the polls on Election Day.

The elections committee was put into place in order to be a governing hand and make sure

candidates follow simple rules to avoid chaos but that hand has become rough and it seems dead set on disqualifying candidates instead of cultivating leaders.

For example I was running for a position and was disqualified for being "late" to the SGA officers' forum. In the rules it stated that you must be on time for roll call, which I was, I was in my seat before anyone was at the podium and before roll call started.

Since the rule was so clear and set in stone you would think I was notified at the speeches I was disqualified, no. Instead I was under the impression I was still running, answered to roll call, gave my speech and turned in my financial disclosure form the next day.

I then received my disqualification letter and when asked why I didn't enter the exhibit hall when everyone else did I explained that I assumed I couldn't go in until 6 p.m. I was then told not to assume, I asked why it didn't clearly state I must be in the room at 6 p.m. I was told it's assumed that people wanting to be leaders would be on time.

To assume or not to assume?

When it was investigated the roll showed that my name had been marked here but was scratched out due to the fact that a member of the elections committee said I was not there.

This was due to me being "late" but by whose standards, because according to the rules "before roll call" I was on time. The roll call itself was put into place to make sure that candidates showed up to the speeches but has now turned into another way to knock someone out of the race.

I feel that the major problem is that the committee is run by students this in itself can cause controversy. Not all students are honest and may be bias and may try to sway decisions in a way to help their friends make it into office.

I believe that it should be run by administrators and students because the purpose of this committee is to maintain fairness and justice throughout the election process so having administrators apart of it could even the odds. I never come with problems with out also being armed with solutions, and

another one would be for students to be informed.

I did not write this out of spite or to bash the elections committee I wrote it to inform the student body and provoke change and thought. Elections for the committee are held during the second week of the spring semester with elections for the freshman class and open offices.

I ask that the student body is knowledgeable of those running to be on the elections committee to make sure they are not only qualified but have the character and integrity to ensure justice during the elections process.

In year 2008 I believe that the elections committee was wrong, that they overstepped their boundaries and made disqualifications not based on the rules and when it was made apparent they were wrong didn't do the right thing to correct it. Just as Barack Obama I want your votes to count, because once we allow others to dictate who we should or should not vote for we've handed them our rights.

I appealed the decision they made three times, was in the

Student Development office for 6 hours (spread throughout three days) and I went through the proper chain of command.

I challenged them because I believe firmly in what Elaine Maxwell once stated "My will shall shape the future. Whether I fail or succeed shall be no man's doing but my own. I am the force; I can clear any obstacle before me or I can be lost in the maze. My choice; my responsibility; win or lose, only I hold the key to my destiny".

If I had allowed the elections committee to write me off with a letter saying, "Thank you for your interest in becoming a leader but you're disqualified" and just gave up then I would be handing them my destiny.

So what are my final thoughts on the Elections Committee?

On paper the Elections Committee sounds like a good idea but are they upholding their purpose or going beyond it? I believe they have surpassed their purpose and become a "kick me" sign on the backs of candidates, which encourages students to run for cover instead of positions

Production suspended at Howard University student newspaper

SHAUNTEL LOWE
Black College Wire

A Howard University policy board decided that the print edition of the student newspaper will not be published for the rest of the school year, but the paper will continue publishing online as the staff tries to dig itself out of a financial crisis.

"There's not enough money that would allow them to print a daily between now and the end of the year," University spokesperson Ron Harris told Black College Wire late Wednesday, March 26.

The division of student affairs has agreed to pay for a special print graduation issue in May and will pay the salaries of the staff publishing online for the rest of the school year, Harris said.

Last week, the top editor of the Hilltop, Drew Costley, said the paper owed its printer, the Washington Times, \$48,000 for past printing bills. At a March 6 meeting of the paper's policy board, the decision was made to stop printing for an unspecified amount of time.

Since news broke last week about the situation, more than \$20,000 has been raised for the paper by various campus departments, faculty, staff and alumni,

Harris said. But the board determined it was not enough.

Harris said the university is continuing to pay down the printing debt, and he did not know if the paper would be responsible for repaying the university.

In addition to the overdue printing bills, the Hilltop has had to deal with missing funds and "unpaid advertising." In a March 21 interview, Costley said that the business office had not sent out invoices and tearsheets to advertisers for a month and a half during the fall, resulting in \$40,000 to \$45,000 in lost revenue.

Business manager speaks out

But on March 27, the Hilltop's business manager, Ashley Marshall, said the lost revenue, which was discussed at the latest policy board meeting, only amounted to about \$10,000. Marshall, a junior majoring in legal communications, said a member of the business staff had been logging the invoices but did not physically mail them out to advertisers and was fired in part because of that.

When contacted for confirmation on exactly how much revenue was lost, university spokesperson Harris said he did not know because students

handle it.

Marshall said the real issue is not the amount of lost revenue.

"We just didn't get enough revenue altogether," she said. According to Marshall, fall advertising revenue for the paper has been falling steadily since 2005, the first year the paper went daily. In fall 2005, over \$149,000 worth of ads were sold. In fall, 2006 the amount was a little over \$122,000. This past fall, only \$86,000 worth of ads were sold, she said. These figures show a 42 percent drop in ad revenue in just two years.

Marshall attributes the drop to a nationwide struggle for print publications to secure advertising and inadequate training and time for her and her staff to do ad campaigns. She said she applied for the business manager position in spring 2007 but was not hired.

In mid-August, two weeks before the start of the school year, the business manager who had been hired quit, and Marshall stepped in as an interim business manager before officially being hired in September. She said she agreed to not be paid until she was officially hired.

"I was in the office every day," she said she even quit her job at the Gap in Georgetown so

that she could spend more time in the Hilltop office, adding that she also took a pay cut at the beginning of the year so that her staff could be paid more.

The office was not ready for the start of the school year, she said, explaining that during the summer, the business manager is paid to stay and collect revenue from the previous school year and create ad campaigns for the upcoming year, but none of that got done for this year, she said.

"If I hadn't stepped up, who knows how worse the situation could have been," she said.

Marshall said she was never properly trained for the position and had to seek out advice from a past business manager.

Following the initial March 6 board decision to halt publication, Marshall sent out a letter on March 14 to advertisers notifying them the paper would not publish for the rest of the year. In a previous Black College Wire story, Costley said the letter should not have been sent and was done so without his authorization. But Marshall said at the March 6 meeting, board members insisted that a letter be sent out. She said it "wasn't necessary" for Costley to see the letter before she sent it.

Staff needs more training,

support

"The real issue with the Hilltop is that there's not enough support for the financial matters of the Hilltop. When the Hilltop went daily, knowing that it was going to be a lot more fiscally strenuous on the paper, there should have been more advisers put on the board for financial purposes," Marshall said.

Harris said there are 17 members on the policy board, including students, faculty and staff, but he did not know exactly who the members are and could not provide contact information for the board.

Sources at the latest policy board meeting said those in attendance had been instructed not to speak with the media.

Last week, Costley said in January, \$20,000 was missing from the paper's account and no one seemed to know where it had gone. On March 26, Harris said that as the result of an "accounting error," some money had been missing from the paper's account, but he did not know when or how much.

"Some money was inadvertently transferred to a different account and as soon as that mistake was discovered that money was transferred back," he said.

Marshall said the error related to the payroll system and

they knew where the money was.

For now, Harris said the university has created a subcommittee within the policy board to determine what systemic issues contributed to the current financial crisis and how to avoid a similar situation in the future.

"The ideal solution is for the Hilltop to be printing daily as it was before," Harris said.

Marshall said, pending the policy board's permission, she would like to spend the rest of this year focusing on learning how to handle online advertising, training next year's staff and securing advertising for the graduation issue. She said currently the paper does not make any money from online advertising.

Marshall said she did her best and, like Costley, wanted to continue publishing.

"I did everything that I could do given the time that I had and what I had to work with to collect as much money as I could," she said.

Harris said the editor in chief was not at the latest policy board meeting, where the decision was made to publish online only through the end of the year. Costley did not return several phone calls and emails seeking comment for this article.

Women, please stop complaining about men

RONALD P. CLARK
Black College Wire

Women need to stop complaining -- they are the reason for the lack of "high caliber" men on college campuses.

The standard is set by the female. A male dresses nice to attract females. A man keeps himself up to attract females. But he will not do more than is needed to attract females, which is where the problem lies.

Women have allowed such haphazard, lazy, trifling and downright embarrassing attempts at approaching them fly for so long that men do not feel the need to improve their approaches because they don't see the reason to expend a lot of energy when the minimal effort is successful.

If I can take a test by barely glancing over my notes and still pass, that's what I'm going to do. But if I know I must reread the chapter, go over my notes

multiple times and make note cards, just to pass, then I will. Women used to be the latter, now they are the former.

If all women came together and decided that they were not going to allow any more of the nonsense men are known to produce, then men would step up to the challenge and raise their games. Why? Because men want women, and getting them is their life's goal.

But if one woman will not allow nonsense, but twenty others will, well, that is not the fault of the man.

Now, I'm not saying that men do not have a part in this, because they do. But women need to realize that they have much more of a role than they think in how guys act when it comes to them.

Women stay in broken down relationships with men who do not deserve them and stay in them for so long that when they finally do get out these relation-

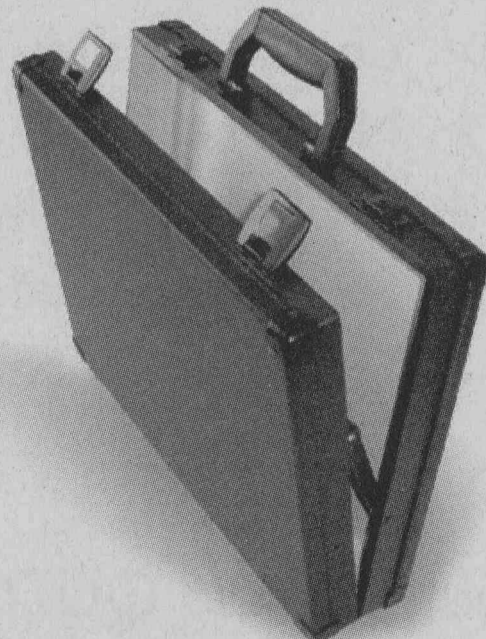
ships, they have a negative image that all men are like that. No, just the men you date are like that.

Immaturity exists among men and women. Time after time, a woman will detail the many downfalls of the man she's with. She continuously reels off his faults, his issues and his inability to be who she needs him to be, yet she is still with him. I understand that women are natural nurturers but after a while you have to say enough is enough.

Some women complain from beginning to end when there should have never been a beginning to begin with.

Just find someone of your maturity level and move on. If your school does not have someone like that, then look somewhere else; look deeper into the male population on campus or look at yourself and realize that maybe you have a false sense of your own maturity level.

IS YOUR PORTFOLIO
LOOKING KIND OF EMPTY?



GET CLIPS!

Contributors meetings every Wednesday at 5 p.m.

AGGIES RUNDOWN

SOFTBALL

NORTHERN DIVISION

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
Hampton	0-0	13-9
Delaware State	0-0	10-11
Morgan State	0-0	5-6
Howard	0-0	4-9
MD Eastern-Shore	0-0	5-14
Coppin State	0-0	0-8

SOUTHERN DIVISION

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
North Carolina A&T	0-0	11-8
Norfolk State	0-0	6-15
Florida A&M	0-0	8-23
South Carolina State	0-0	4-14
Bethune-Cookman	0-0	6-25

THIS WEEK'S GAME:

Saturday & Sunday
vs. Winston-Salem State
Aggie Softball Complex
Saturday: 1 p.m. (Doubleheader)
Sunday: Noon

Wednesday
vs. Savannah State
Aggie Softball Complex
Saturday: 1 p.m. (Doubleheader)

BASEBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
Bethune-Cookman	3-0	16-10
North Carolina A&T	4-2	11-15
MD Eastern-Shore	2-1	6-19
Norfolk State	4-2	5-24
Delaware State	3-3	11-10
Florida A&M	2-4	6-13
Coppin State	0-6	2-26

THIS WEEK'S GAME:

Wednesday
@ UNCC
Greensboro, N.C.
6 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday
@ Bethune-Cookman
Daytona Beach, Fla.
Saturday: 1 p.m. (Doubleheader)
Sunday: 1 p.m.

Tuesday
@ UNCC
Charlotte, N.C.
6 p.m.

Wednesday
@ UNC
Cary, N.C.
6 p.m.

NEWS & NOTES

RALEIGH RELAYS The women finished 3rd in the women's relays. Lonnie Phifer finished 3rd in the men's shot put with 17.30m toss. Kimona Smith finished 4th in Women Long Jump.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL Two members from the Regular Season MEAC Champion Lady Aggies earned All-State. Guard Amber Bland was named to the first-team and Ta'Wuana 'Tweet Cook was garnered second-team honors.

AROUND SPORTS

NASCAR CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Three things were evident when the dust settled at Martinsville Speedway: Jamie McMurray is capable of rising to the occasion; there's been a shift in power among NASCAR's elite teams; and owner Jack Roush really, really dislikes Toyota.

OLYMPICS BEIJING — It's been a rough start for the Olympic flame, but Monday's lighting ceremony in tightly guarded Tiananmen Square offered the symbol a respite before it embarks on a world tour sure to be marked by more protests.

BASEBALL NEW YORK — One day after a rainout, the Yankees begin their long goodbye. Festivities now will be held under the lights for the last home opener at Yankee Stadium.

GOLF RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. — The comparisons between Lorena Ochoa and Tiger Woods are appropriate. Both win at an alarming rate, at times crushing the opposition. The difference is majors. Woods had a career Grand Slam at age 24. Ochoa, even now and especially at Mission Hills, still faces a few doubts.

TENNIS KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — Serena Williams faces nemesis Justine Henin in the quarterfinals at the Sony Ericsson Open.

The Associated Press

Final Four: Which #1 will finish #1?

DWIGHT MOORE II
Contributor

For the 1st time since the tournament field expanded to 64 teams in 1985, all four No. 1 seeds have advanced to the Final Four. But just how good are these teams? Good enough that UNC, UCLA, Memphis, and Kansas were ranked in that order at the top of almost every poll in the pre-season. Each team except for Kansas was ranked No. 1 at some point in the season and the Jayhawks never fell out of the top 5. They arrive with a combine record of 143-9 and a winning percentage over 90, which is the highest among Final Four teams in history. Each team will arrive in San Antonio with dreams of a national championship.



UNC Tar Heels
Record: 36-2
Coach: Roy Williams

The Heels are making their 17th trip to the Final Four, which is second all-time. They are led by national player of the year Tyler Hansbrough who's toughness and desire is unmatched in college basketball. He leads the Heels in scoring and rebounding but he isn't the only weapon Coach Williams has to choose from. Wayne Ellington and Danny Green provide great shooting from the perimeter. The biggest advantage for this team is on the

glass, they are out rebounding their opponents by an average of over 12 per game. However, the one thing that the Heels have struggled with this season is a lack of effort on defense. Coach Williams once removed the rims from the baskets so the team could focus just on defense during practice.

The Heels will win the national title if: Tyler Hansbrough continues to do what he has done all year and imposes his will on the game and takes it over. Danny Green and Wayne Ellington will need to continue to provide a scoring punch from the outside, while Deon Thompson helps take some of the load off of Hansbrough. Lawson will have to be at his best and Quentin Thomas will need to keep his mistakes to a minimum.



Kansas Jayhawks
Record: 35-3
Coach: Bill Self

The Jayhawks are making their 13th Final Four appearance which is the 3rd most of all-time. They have eight players who average more than 10 minutes, they've had seven different leading scorers in a game and no one is averaging over 13 points per game. Their defense has been their calling card all season forcing over 15 turnovers per game while also getting more than 8 steals per game while allowing oppo-

nents to shoot only 37 percent for the season. However, they don't have a player like Hansbrough or Kevin Love or Chris Douglas-Roberts who can take over the game.

The Jayhawks will win the national title if: They did what no one else could do and that was slow down Davidson's Stephen Curry. Their defense creates their offense so if they are successful with their full court pressure that will allow them to get easy baskets and gain confidence. Plus, Sasha Kaun and Darnell Jackson will need to be ready to bang with Hansbrough in the low post and if Russell Robinson and Mario Chalmers can put pressure on Lawson advancing to the title game could be in the Jayhawks future.



Memphis Tigers
Record: 37-1
Coach: John Calipari

Memphis will be making its 3rd Final Four appearance and its first since 1985. Throughout the season there have been many doubts about any and everything for the Tigers. However, Memphis will be the most athletic team in San Antonio and might also have the best backcourt with 1st team All-American Chris Douglas-Roberts and freshman stud Derrick Rose. But the Tigers were the only team from their conference to make the tournament, which is why there have

been questions about their level of competition. Also, ranking next to last in Division 1 in free throwing shooting could come back to bite the Tigers.

The Tigers will win the national title if: They continue to play with the 'us against the world' mindset that they have played with most of this season. Out of all the No. 1 seeds Memphis was the team that many thought wouldn't get to this point and that is fine with them. Memphis has enough quality depth to match up with anyone left in the tournament. Defensive Player of the Year Joey Dorsey will match up with Kevin Love and if he can limit Love's touches, the Tigers should advance to the title game.



UCLA Bruins
Record: 35-3
Coach: Ben Howland

UCLA will be making a record 18th Final Four appearance and their 3rd straight. For the last two seasons the Bruins have fallen short of winning the national title by lacking a post presence. Enter 6-10, 260 lbs Pac-10 Player of the Year Kevin Love who has done it all for UCLA this season. The 1st team All American has the Bruins giving up only 58 points a game while holding opponents to 41% from the field, in what many experts considered to be the best conference in the na-

tion this season. Although the Bruins are complete, they have struggled at times this season with playing the full 40 minutes and have sometimes played down to their opponents level.

The Bruins will win the national title if: Darren Collison has to be ready to face his most difficult challenge this season with Derrick Rose of Memphis. Russell Westbrook will need to be ready to defend Chris Douglas-Roberts and possibly Wayne Ellington or Brandon Rush. Also, Josh Shipp will have to provide Collison with some scoring help on the wing, while Kevin Love will need to continue what he has been doing all season. If the Bruins do that they might be winning their 12th national championship.

Final Prediction: UCLA will advance after a physical battle with Memphis. North Carolina will advance after a high scoring affair with the Jayhawks. This will set up a showdown of college basketball royalty between the Bruins and the Tarheels. With Dean Smith and John Wooden watching on they will see Love and Hansbrough have an incredible game in the low post and Shipp and Ellington trade 3s all night. But in the end the Heels will continue to provide UCLA with Final Four heartbreak as they celebrate their second national title in 4 years and 6th overall.

Rattlers 'slip' by Aggies

MALCOLM S. EUSTACHE
Sports Editor

Cloudy skies, consistent drizzle and cold temperatures made for a messy three-game series at War Memorial Stadium this past weekend.

After a convincing 9-2 victory in game one for the Aggies, Florida A&M seemingly rattled A&T with good pitching and even better timing to win games two and three, 6-4 and 8-6 respectively.

"I think we relaxed and thought the Rattlers would lay down," said outfielder C.J. Beatty. "The way the ninth inning ended was almost like [it] wasn't meant for us to win."

In that final inning of the series finale, the men of blue-and-gold held a 4-2 lead. But the Rattlers scored six straight runs in the top of the ninth to create a gap too large for the Aggies to overcome.

Left fielder Daryl Evans, center fielder Steve Cunningham, third baseman Jared Jeffries, short stop Tim Schlach, second baseman Cory McFadden and first baseman Tim Jones pioneered the run at the end of the game for Florida A&M.

The Aggies had one more chance to reclaim the lead and nearly did.

After a single by short stop Nick Mayo, designated hitter Jeremy Jones launched his second homerun of the game over the right wall towards E. Lindsay St. making it 8-6.

Considering Beatty's dominance over the plate, the Rattlers proceeded to walk him. Second baseman Nelson Santos singled putting runners on first and third, but a grounder by first baseman Joe McIntyre erased the Aggies aspirations of a comeback.

"The Rattlers hit balls we just couldn't get a glove on," said Beatty, who was last year's MEAC Rookie of the Year.

The mishandling of the game began in game two as both teams started off scoreless through the first two innings. Florida A&M would score one run in the third inning, four runs in the fourth inning, and one run in the fifth inning giving them a 6-0 lead late in the contest. The Aggies made a valiant effort in the bottom of the sixth scoring four runs, including back-to-back homeruns by McIntyre and Jones,

bringing them within striking distance.

Rattlers pitcher Migeul Parga got back on track after giving up his only two hits of the game by closing out with a strong performance in the seventh inning.

But Parga's pitching paled in comparison to senior pitcher Tim Johnson who threw a complete game in game one striking out 11 players and lowering his ERA to 2.33.

Beatty and right fielder Joe Wade both collected three RBI's. McIntyre and Jones both hit homers, as catcher Neil Rosser and left fielder B.J. Curtis combined for five runs scored.

The Aggies are going to need more similar play in the coming weeks as they head out on an 11 game road trip.

"We are fired up to prove that we are a dynamic team," said Beatty. "This past weekend has increased our hunger towards the MEAC Championship."

The Aggies lost on the road Tuesday night to S.C. Upstate by a score of 16-6. Jones had two runs scored and an RBI.

Lady Aggies sweep Bulldogs

DANIEL HENDERSON
Register Reporter

The A&T women's softball team snapped a two game losing streak after knocking off S.C. State 4-0 and 6-4 this past weekend in a doubleheader series on Lady Bulldogs field.

The game marked the MEAC season opener for A&T who improved to 14-1 in the conference and 2-0 in the conference.

S.C. State came in having won five out of their last six games after surrendering ten consecutive losses. A&T desperately needed to cease their momentum after only achieving one victory in the month of March.

Talented freshman Jennifer Luper led the way in game one of the series, pitching a one-hitter shutout along with eight strikeouts.

The ace pitcher improved to 8-3, and is off to one of the better starts in Aggie history. Lillian Bullock was consid-

erably solid at the plate hitting 2-3 with two RBIs.

Game two did not occur as such a cakewalk for the Lady Aggies.

After expanding the lead to 6-1 in the top of the fifth, the Lady Bulldogs answered back with 3 runs cutting the lead to two in the following inning, but remained scoreless in bottom of the seventh.

Prior to last weekend's battle, the blue and gold fell short to cross-town rival UNC-Greensboro in a series sweep 0-2 and 3-9 Wednesday.

The Lady Aggies witnessed the first team to really take control of Luper's consistent job at the mound with six hits including one homerun.

In the second match-up A&T reached the scoreboard, but could not capitalize on their success at the plate.

The blue and gold will host Winston-Salem State in a doubleheader series this weekend. Gametime will begin at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Belichick over 'Spygate'

DAVE GOLDBERG
AP Football Writer

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Bill Belichick insists there are no new revelations to come about Spygate.

"I think they've addressed everything they possibly can address," the New England Patriots coach said Tuesday.

Belichick, speaking during the AFC coaches breakfast at the NFL meetings, said he was interviewed again after the Super Bowl about allegations that former team employee Matt Walsh had illegal tapes. Those tapes presumably included a walkthrough by the St. Louis Rams on the day before the 2002 Super Bowl, a game the Patriots won.

"I've addressed so many questions so many times from so many people I don't know what else the league could ask," Belichick said.

Commissioner Roger Goodell confirmed that the NFL

spoke again with Belichick and other Patriots employees after last January's Super Bowl loss to the New York Giants. The league has been negotiating an agreement with Walsh that it hopes will get Walsh, a golf pro in Hawaii, to come forward with what he has.

"We followed up on other things because certain things had been tossed out," Goodell said of the added round of interviews with Belichick and other members of the Patriots front office.

This was the first time anyone disclosed that Belichick and other Patriots staffers were reinterviewed after the Super Bowl, when the Walsh allegations surfaced. The first interviews actually came the day before the Super Bowl with player personnel director Scott Pioli; Stacey James, the team's vice president for media relations; and video director Jimmy Dee. League officials subsequent-

ly interviewed owner Robert Kraft and Belichick, as he disclosed on Tuesday. "I talked to four or five people," Belichick said, although he did not say if it was in person or by telephone.

Spygate developed after the first game of the season, when tapes of the New York Jets' defensive signals were confiscated from a Patriots employee on the sideline. Belichick was fined \$500,000, the team was fined \$250,000 and was stripped of its first-round draft choice.

The Patriots ended up becoming the first team to finish the regular season 16-0. They won two playoff games, but were upset 17-14 in the Super Bowl by the Giants.

The Walsh allegations came out two days before that title game, although Belichick said they weren't a distraction in the game. And he vehemently denied the Patriots taped a Rams walkthrough.

The season of the 'off-season'

BARRY WILNER
AP Football Writer

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — As the calendar turns to April, the NFL has enough issues to keep it busy right through the draft at the end of the month. And then some.

At this week's owners meetings, the myriad topics range from the collective bargaining agreement, in light of the slumping economy, to a series of rules changes, including allowing helmet communications on defense. Don't forget reseeding of playoff qualifiers so that a wild-card team with a better record than a division winner could host a first-round game.

Or the status of suspended Titans cornerback Pacman Jones, who might be on the

verge of joining the Cowboys in a trade, even though his availability for the 2008 season is uncertain.

Plus the lingering shadow of Spygate and what information former Patriots employee Matt Walsh has about the team possibly making illegal tapes of opponents that commissioner Roger Goodell is unaware of.

So forget any time in the Florida sun during these meetings. Owners, general managers and coaches have full plates long before they sit down at their draft tables to restock their rosters.

After announcing the 32 owners unanimously approved the sale of 50 percent of the Miami Dolphins to New York real estate magnate Stephen Ross, Goodell got into meatier topics Monday.

Day 26, not so bad after all

QUINTON HATFIELD
Contributor

In today's state of R&B many people complain right now that it's not like it used to be. I can understand why some people say that, but really when did anything always stay the same?

Anything in life is always destined to change, even though in some cases it can be for better or worse. Just think about the evolution of the genre over the years as the sound was different each decade. Yeah the music throughout the years was great and still is, but look at the ones who made an impact.

Marvin Gaye, Isaac Hayes, Al Green, Teddy Pendergrass had the game on lock during their era which paved the way for others today like R. Kelly, Joe, Avant, Tank, Ginuwine, Jaheim, Tank, and vice versa as they will do the same for the future.

Now it's time to give up some new room for an R&B group that has the talent to take it to the next level. After busting their butt on the super music-mogul, P. Diddy's show "Making The Band 4" brought Day 26.

The group composed of five members (Brian, Mike, Que, Willie, and Robert) now has a self-titled album that shows if their really built to last.

In order to be a successful R&B group you have to have superb chemistry, which many don't have that's why they don't last. If it's a group of four or five members one or two should not be doing all the work while the rest is sitting back chilling.

Day 26, to keep it real, has great chemistry and this is why they caught my ear instantly on the album.

The music is smooth and clear in which they display their talent to the highest level. One song that lives this statement out completely is "Are We In This Together" produced and well put together by the genius sound of Brian Michael Cox.

It's good too, as the song shows that Day 26 were in it together and nobody tried to outshine each other. Hands down, the musical vibe of the group was excellent.

Brian Michael Cox must be Diddy's go-to-guy for lacing up something nice for the group, as he gives them another smooth melodic tune on "Since You've Been Gone."

As men when we fall in love and "wifey" decides to leave we really we really can feel what their talking about when we hear that song. Day 26 even brings this to a reality at it's best. But hey, it is what it is when you miss someone.

The overall song quality of the album is very exciting music. There is one instance though where they have a N'Sync poppish on "I'm The Reason." Overall, Day 26 is perceived as a solid male R&B group image wise and musically.

Passionate Artists

RAASHIDA RYAN-HAYES
Contributor

A&T's annual student art exhibition opened on Friday, March 28th in the Henry Taylor Art Gallery located in the Dudley Building.

This year's art exhibition is entitled "Pride and Passion," and features artwork from A&T's very own talented students.

There are typically three art shows offered during the year, one for graduating seniors in the fall and spring and one for the general student body. In order to be in the show the faculty chooses artwork submitted by the students based on different categories such as painting, drawing, and mixed media.

Latisha Coleman, a double major in graphic communication systems and visual arts, has several pieces of artwork in the exhibit including "Under the Sea" and her favorite piece, "Motherly Love."

Coleman says she gets her motivation from everyday conversations with family and friends or anything that strikes some type of image in her head. She feels that her paintings make the viewer go back to the fantasy world, which is what she aims for in her paintings.

Amanda Lawson, a senior visual arts and design major, also has several pieces of artwork in the exhibit.

The inspiration for her artwork comes from things that excite her and that she feels are beautiful. She also gets inspiration from other cultures.

"I want them to have the experience of feeling something else... because a lot of people can't travel, they can't see a lot of things outside of the U.S. or outside of where they live, so I try to bring that to them."

Brenda Smith Basley, Director of the Visual Arts Program, hopes that people will appreciate the talents on



PHOTO BY (CONTRIBUTOR)

LATISHA COLEMAN one of the featured artists in the "Pride and Passion" art exhibit standing next to one of her pieces "Under the Sea"

campus and will see the diversity of skills that the students have. She said that the students had better access this year due to funding from the College of Arts and Sciences, including freshmen, who don't typically submit much work.

Basley feels that more freshmen submitted work this year because a large number came into the major

prepared from high school with advanced skills.

Basley said she is very much pleased with the show. "I've heard several people tell us that this is the best show they've seen in years."

Paintings, sculptures, and much more will be on display in the Henry Taylor Art Gallery in the Dudley Building until April 19th.

Love the Art Life? write for theScene!

Contributors Meetings every Wednesday

5 p.m.
NCB 328

AROUND GREENSBORO

A taste of New York in one slice

MIA E. HOWARD
Contributor

The owners of Westerwood Tavern in Westerwood and College Hill Sundries in College Hill opened their first restaurant at 2419 Spring Garden St. about one year ago. The eclectic College Hill General Store sits just across the street from College Hill Sundries.

Chris Martin and David Essa opened Spring Garden Bar and Pizzeria, a New York-styled pizzeria and bar that provides its customers with expedient service and "the best slice in town." The waiters and waitresses are friendly and fast working.

The two bought the building from Bert's Seafood about four years ago. They knew they wanted to open a business but were not sure of what type of business to open. They leased the space to Cafe Nouveau and focused on their other businesses. When Cafe Nouveau moved out more than a year ago, they decided to open a unique pizza parlor. "We wanted a nice neighborhood bar where people can come and get good pizza,"

Martin said.

Their pizza is hand-tossed and prepared with your choice of mozzarella, Swiss or American cheese for \$1.75 per slice. A large box of cheese pizza is \$11.99. Spring Garden Bar and Pizzeria offers chicken wings, pasta, subs, hand-patted burgers, sandwiches and salads on their menu with prices ranging from 3-16 dollars. Spring Garden Bar & Pizzeria's bread sticks have a twist, Ray's Garlic Knots.

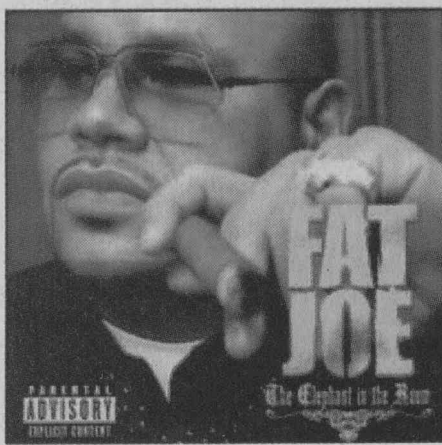
A popular New York treat, garlic knots are baked dough knots, tossed in butter and salt, served with a side of marinara sauce. There are great alcohol specials at the bar as well. Domestic beer is \$1 on Tuesdays and imported beer is served at \$2.50 on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Martinis are also \$4 on Wednesdays. Timothy Barlow, a regular customer says, "I just recently started coming here and I can't enough of their pizza. The price is affordable and the food is delicious."

The Brazilian mahogany bar extends from one end of the pizza shop to the other with three plasma screens behind it. Customers can sit where they please, either

at the bar, a table or booth. This unique pizzeria also has an outdoor patio that seats 25 people. The patio extends around the side of the building with black steel chairs and tables.

The decor of the pizza shop was inspired by a trolley system that served the suburbs of Greensboro. Neighborhoods such as White Oak, Glenwood and Lindley Park were among the stops. Greg Podgorny, a blacksmith and relative of David Essa, designed the shop with a theme that would memorialize Greensboro's historic trolley cars and firefighters of the city. Martin and Essa even have a piece of the original trolley track displayed in a case near vintage firefighting memorabilia. Podgorny created vintage-looking signs designating historical stops along Spring Garden St. and metal cutouts of pizza slices and beer bottles. He also created an antique grandfather clock.

Hours are 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. daily. This restaurant is perfect for lunch, dinner and late night hours. Delivery is also available from 11 a.m. to 12 midnight.



ALBUM REVIEW FAT JOE The Elephant in the Room

Fat Joe has been overlooked in many conversations concerning the current Cadre of Elite Emcees. He steps up to the plate for his eighth major at bat with his album "The Elephant in the Room."

Fat Joe plays a big game, has a couple hits and rips through flows like an elephant would do peanuts, but there is only a mouse-size helping of hits

capable of making this release fly off shelves. The ladies may appreciate the Swizzbeatz-produced track, Drop, while the fans that are really into rap music should make "My Conscience" featuring Krs-One and K.A.R. required listening. "I Won't Tell" featuring J. holiday is the only homerun on the album and carries the album because of the space between hit records.

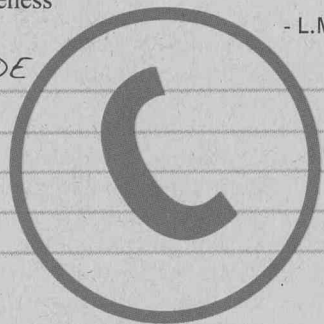
Outside of the singles, the album portion of "The Elephant in the Room" goes over like a well rehearsed and delivered freestyle tape. If you are a Fat Joe fan, you can plan to get exactly what

you expect from this release. All others may want to get on iTunes and get the tracks mentioned above.

C mostly for presentation and lack of cohesiveness

- L.M.

GRADE



hotlist

Apr. 2 to Apr. 8

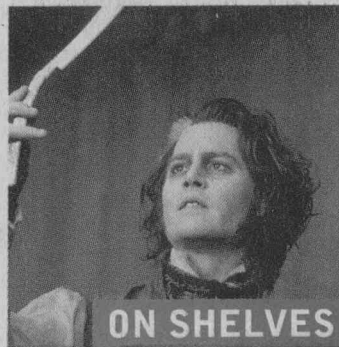
The A&T Register's guide to what's going on this week in arts and entertainment.



ON SCREEN

LEATHERHEADS stars George Clooney and Renée Zellweger and opens everywhere on Friday. This sports-oriented comedy is about Connelly's (Clooney's) football team in the 1920s losing their sponsor which causes the entire league to collapse, but with the quick-thinking jocks came up with creative attempts to get it back.

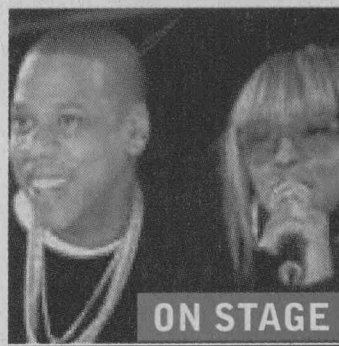
- A.T.



ON SHELVES

SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET drops this week in stores. The award-winning musical thriller comes to the big screen to DVD, directed by Tim Burton and starring Johnny Depp. After Todd (Depp) being wrongfully accused and incarcerated seeks vengeance against those who killed his wife and daughter by opening his own barbershop.

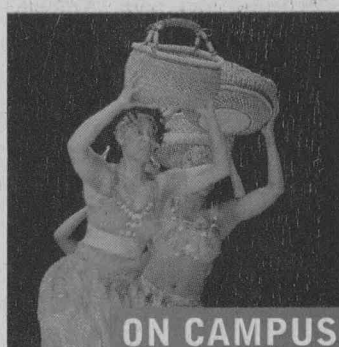
- A.T.



ON STAGE

JAY-Z AND MARY J BLIGE Heart of the City tour hits stage Saturday at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex 7:30 p.m. Both artists are co-headlining a historic North American tour. The show will be covering Blige's 8th and current album "Growing Pains" and Jay-Z's 2006 'Kingdom Come' and 'American Gangster'

- A.T.



ON CAMPUS

INTERNATIONAL DANCE WEEK that started Tuesday and ends Saturday. On Wed. come see the Jamaican and Cuban Master Dance Classes and Lectures. Friday come watch the Children's Dance Performance and on Saturday premieres the E. Gwynn Dancers Concert. This is a dance off you wouldn't want to miss!

- A.T.

20 QUESTIONS

1. Why is Blackplanet still sending people messages?
2. Isn't it sad that the founder of Popeye's died?
3. I wonder if he would get a 12 piece chicken salute?
4. How corny was that?
5. Will you attend graduation just to see Bill Cosby?
6. Are you still trying to get tickets to the Mary J. Blige Jay Z concert?
7. Will the war in Iraq ever be over?
8. Anyone else tired of Tyler Perry movies?
9. Why every time you get a new cell phone a month after you get it an even better one comes out?
10. Who won the NIT?
11. Who cares?
12. Why do people start to act different when warm weather comes around?
13. What would you rather hear from your friend the honest truth or a soft lie?
14. Is it safe to assume that any neighborhood that ends in HOMES is a project?
15. Why does that one broke friend always try to tag along on a road trip?
16. Why does a game of spades become so serious?
17. How many more American Pies do we actually need?
18. Wasn't 1..2..3..enough?
19. When was the last time that you actually read the whole chapter of a book for class?
20. Why does it take so much energy just to get up to go exercise?