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THE A&T REGISTER

FREE | VOLUME LXXXII, NO. 8

NCATREGISTER.COM

OCTOBER 14, 2009 | WEDNESDAY

SERVING THE AGGIE COMMUNITY FOR OVER 80 YEARS

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA A&T

Graduation changes could mean only Ph.D's get to walk

DEXTER R. MULLINS & KELCIE McCRAE
The A&T Register

Cries of anger and frustration erupted at the Council of Presidents meeting last night after Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Dr. Sullivan Welborne announced the possibility of graduates not being able to walk across the stage to receive their diploma.

"I was just informed about a week ago for me to check out the student input, and that's when I was notified," Welborne said. "I'm quite sure there could have been discussions, but I'm not on the commencement committee."

The proposed changes will only allow for the students receiving their doctoral degree to walk across the stage and have their name called. All other graduates will stand in groups by school or college, turn their tassels, and sit back down.

The Commencement Committee will decide today if the change will be made officially or not. Many students were upset when they found out that this decision could be made, and also that it would take affect at the December graduation. If this change is made, it will be permanent.

"I think this is very unfair towards all graduates," senior engineering major Dennis Mills said. "Being that we all had to work very hard. A lot of people struggled to get their degrees, whether it was financial, or academic. I feel that us walking across the stage is a way of showing respects to ourselves and our families."

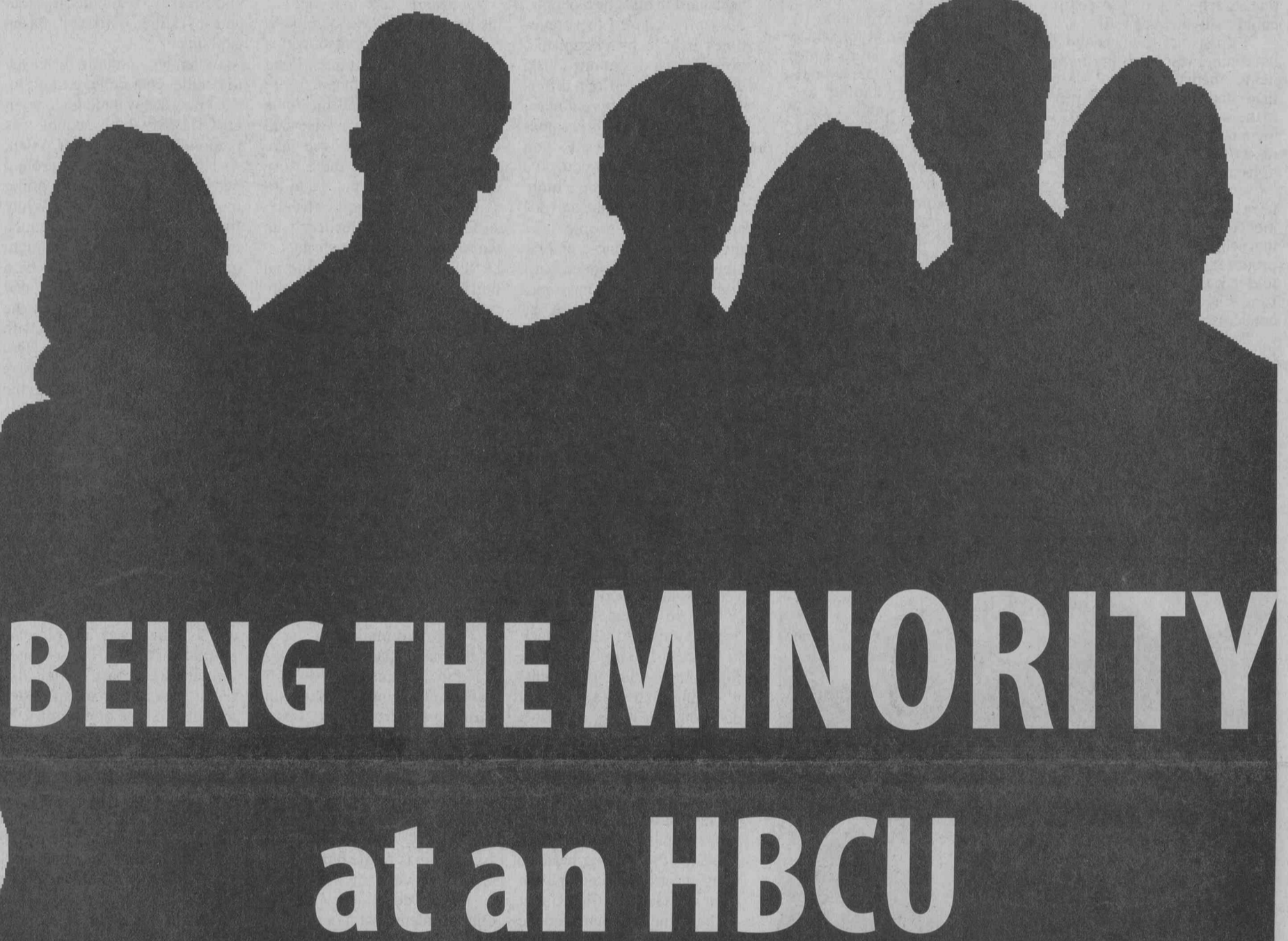
This is a decision that could have a potentially negative impact on the amount of attendance from students at graduation. Mills said that he wouldn't go to the ceremony because he said there would no longer be a reason to go.

A&T is not the only University that would handle commencement in this manner if the change were made. The University of North Carolina at Greensboro only has their students stand and turn their tassels. However, some students at UNCG also do not like this and say that A&T shouldn't change.

"I hate it, I feel like I invested my time, my money, my energy for four years, and I can't even get two seconds to get acknowledged," senior psychology major Janae Brown said. "I owe that to my family and all the people that supported me, and I hate the fact that they don't get to hear my name called."

► See GRADUATION on Page 2

CAMPUS NOTEBOOK



BEING THE MINORITY at an HBCU

The Register explores the lives of three students who find themselves in the position of being the minority on a predominantly black campus

LaRIA LAND, SYLVIA OBELL & MARCUS THOMPSON
The A&T Register

B Jessica Chaves old, confident, and carefree, Jessica walks into class. Not intimidated by the setting or other peers, her hand is almost always the first one raised whenever a question is posed. She does not think she has all the answers, but several hours a week in Bluford Library does give her an edge. Sometimes she receives stares and looks of attitude from other girls, but she learned long ago to not care what others thought of her and embrace who she is. Her individuality is reflected in her style of clothing, bright and outgoing. As a Fashion Merchandising major, she puts together outfits that some would never attempt, but that level of creativity is just what her field requires.

Her days are no different than any other Aggie in Aggieworld, traveling from class to Williams Cafeteria, maybe squeezing in a meeting or two, later hanging with friends around the Holland Bowl. Despite all the commonalities Jessica shares with the rest of the student body there is something else keeping Jessica from fitting into the stereotypical depiction of what a student at North Carolina A&T looks like.

Jessica Chaves is a one of 139 Hispanic students currently enrolled this academic school year in a student population of 10,554. With a Mexican father and a White/Native American mother, many would think her background would play a larger role in choosing a

college. However, the reality of the matter is that while Chaves is technically considered a minority, she does not let that label limit her experiences.

"[A&T] was the campus I liked the most of the colleges I was considering, and the Fashion program was more detailed," says Chaves. "I don't think my personality would fit at a [predominantly white institution]."

Minority students on campus are encouraged to use the Multicultural Center located in Murphy Hall as a "resource" and a "home" if they cannot find their place in another organization or program, but that was not a necessity for Chaves.

"I had friends who went here already, and I'm cool with a lot of people now," she said.

Among her friends, mostly African Americans, Chaves is known to be loud and full of smiles. Being Hispanic does not stop her from having Jay-Z as a favorite musical artist and it does stop her from doing well in classes such as African American Experience.

"I'm not intimidated by classes about African American history. A lot of the information covered, I already went over in high school because one of my teachers were Jamaican," says Chaves.

Sometimes her heritage does bring some misconstrued attention when interacting with her peers, like guys call out "hey mami" trying to get her attention, but at most she finds it funny not offensive. Often times she is bombarded her with questions like "what are you", in reference to her ethnicity, but she nonchalantly responds

"a girl" because while being Hispanic is a piece of her, it is not the most important one.

"People think I'm mad 'sidity'" says Chaves, "Then when they get to know me [and click with my personality], they're like 'man, I didn't think you would be like that!'"

Chaves is a living example of Aggie Pride, the standard A&T students and staff lives and works by. Pride is the commonality each person embraces to lessen the differences that would normally divide us because in the end they really don't matter.

"I don't feel different," says Jessica Chaves, "because we are all here for the same reason, and that is to get an education."

Antonio Gonzalez

On a typical weekday, Antonio Gonzalez wakes up around 9 a.m. He talks with friends on Facebook and Skype before preparing to go to his first class. Following his morning class he goes to lunch at 12:15 with friends and then returns to his room to do homework and take a nap before his 3 o'clock class. Once he finishes with classes for the day, he goes to the Fitness Center to work out or to play tennis with his friends. After getting dinner in the cafeteria around 7:30, he goes to his room to work on other assignments or he goes out with his friends. Even though this sounds like the day of any normal A&T student, what makes Antonio Gonzalez

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theWORLD WOODS OF TERROR, ANYONE?

See if you can answer our questions in this week's news quiz for a chance to win a free ticket to the "WOODS OF TERROR!"

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theWORD SGA REPORT CARD

They made a lot of promises, but did they hold up? The Register gives the SGA their first semester grades.

PAGE 4-5

theSCORE WHEN BEARS ATTACK...AGAIN

The football team loses a 7-6 game against the Morgan State Bears.

PAGE 7

theSCENE 'WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE'

A childhood classic becomes an on-screen disaster in this poor attempt to remake a book into a film.

PAGE 8

WEATHER



WEDNESDAY

High: 52°

Low: 40°

THURSDAY: Rain | High 46°

FRIDAY: Mostly Cloudy | High 46°

theYARD

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GRADUATION From page 1

"I have people coming from out of state; New York, D.C., Ohio, various parts of the United States, to see my class and me rise simultaneously, and sit back down. That was one of the reasons why I like and appreciate HBCU's, is that you are given your two moments of shine time at graduation. That's why I wanted to go to an HBCU for grad school."

Students suggested that there might be other ways to cut time on graduation besides cutting out peoples names from the program. Some suggestions were to place time limits on special speakers, and to cut back on extended greetings. Michael Green, the President of the Council of Presidents also said that students having self-control could really help as well.

"I think that students should have some responsibility in policing themselves into sitting there and respecting their peers in the ceremony," Green said. As a council, a motion was passed to say that the student organizations are against this decision.

Senior Class President Kattera Riggins is on the commencement committee. She said that while she was aware of the proposed changes, she was also told that there would be a larger form for students to voice their concerns and be heard.

"I think it would be a really big issue with the senior class. Commencement is a big deal to seniors, so for them not to get their names called...it would really cause a riot around campus," Riggins said. "I will fight for their names called. I was just under the impression that a larger meeting was going to be had

after the meeting we have coming up on Wed (today). As a senior, I would personally want my name called and I think there are other ways to shorten Graduation besides people not get their name called."

Welborne said that many other schools also have their commencement structured in the same way. Upon further research, The Register discovered that Howard University has separate graduations, but Kentucky State University and Winston-Salem State University, have all graduates names called in one ceremony. When asked how he felt students would react, Welborne said that they were very uncomfortable with making a change at this time.

"They feel that many of them are first generation students, and one of the unique things of this institution is to allow them that privilege which is monumental for some families. When you have finally made it, a lot of families feel that this is just a small token of you making it," Welborne said. "Students also felt that at this time any more negative press would just do more damage to the reputation of the University. Students also felt that alternatives like individual staggered award ceremonies after the main commencements."

"If this was me, I would have to say what one of the students said: 'I've been here four years, and I have looked forward to this, and now you come here, less than two months before graduation, to talk to me about a change,'" Welborne said. "If this was going to be a change I should have been notified a long time ago."

MINORITIES From page 1

unique is simply the fact that he is a minority of a HBCU.

Gonzalez, a senior industrial engineering major who is a foreign exchange student from Morelia, Mexico, said that being at A&T is not the first university experience he has had in the U.S. During his sophomore year, he attended North Park University, a multicultural Christian liberal arts school in Chicago, where he said he made many more friends much faster, but found things to be much different at A&T.

"I have been here for two months and so far it has been good," said Gonzalez. "It has been hard to meet new people. It's hard because I feel sometimes a little bit segregated, everybody looks at me a little different because I'm a different guy from a different place and it's so weird to find somebody that gets close to you and starts talking to you. It's unbelievable that I have more friends at UNCG than at A&T and I feel that people over there have been more embrace, more open-minded but I don't know why. I have met amazing people here but it has been harder to meet people at A&T than at UNCG."

Sometimes people just stare at me but they don't talk so it's hard. So far this school has been great, great professors, but basically the same."

Gonzalez who came to A&T from the Institute of Technology and Superior Studies of Monterrey said that his alma mater is one of the most important of the 33 universities in Mexico.

"To be honest, it's easier here," Gonzalez said. "Back in Mexico, I'm used to taking four courses and I am currently taking four as a personal decision, but every course is easier. Over there it's faster and more difficult but over here it has been easier, and I think that's why it has been easier to travel, to go to parties, and have more free time myself. It's amazing because I have heard the same opinion from my German friends that are here, the Brazilian, and the Chilean guys. They all say that here it's easier and usually people from other countries think that in the States it's going to be really hard, that the top universities are in the States, so every university is going to be really hard but it's not and that's just something really amazing."

The native of Morelia says that he only speaks Spanish and English, but like most foreign exchange students, he studied English for at least nine years and traveled to various states and Canadian territories such as California, Oregon, Quebec, Ontario and Montreal. He said that most of his trips have been road trips with friends but he has traveled much more frequently during time in Chicago and

in Greensboro because he has more free time than he did in Mexico.

Gonzalez also stated that in his free time there is more time for going to clubs or house parties but bars in Greensboro aren't quite the same as those in his hometown.

"I have been to Inferno and Mix and other different bars, but when I first arrived here somebody told me this is not Greensboro, this is 'Greensboring' because all the bars close at 2 a.m. so that's kind of weird. If you go to Mexico, Chile, or Brazil you can party as much as you want, party until the next day. After I started making some friends, after we go to a bar or to a club we make our own after party, usually in University Square."

Gonzalez said that one of the reasons he chose to come to A&T was to be in contact with a culture that he was not exposed to before and to "learn more about the history and the roots of African Americans." He said that when he first arrived here he saw a play about the history of North Carolina that gave insight to segregation, slavery, suffering, and the leaders who worked to change the world.

"I have been to the memorial building, the Student Union, and when you are in a HBCU you are in contact with that [history and culture] everyday. That has been good but I wish that people were more open-minded. I don't know why that doesn't happen, that they can't talk to us and explain to us about their personal experience because I think that's one of the main reasons that everybody's here, to be in contact with those experiences, their history, the history of their families. I really like this place, it has been hard, but I really like it."

Amina Pasha

Amina Pasha is a sophomore at North Carolina A&T SU from Seattle, Washington. She is a Business Management major who lives on campus. Pasha is part of the campus organization West Coast Aggies. She eats at the cafeteria, goes to some football games and the occasional house party. Amina Pasha is an Aggie; she is Aggie born, Aggie bred, and when she dies she'll be Aggie dead, just like any other student that goes to NC A&T. On paper, Pasha sounds no different from the traditional aggie. To the eye, Pasha's biracial roots make her stand out on A&T's predominantly black campus.

Pasha is one of 825 non-black undergrad students that enrolled at A&T in 2008. A&T is a HBCU, Historically Black College or University. The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, defines an HBCU as: "...any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary [of Education] to be a reliable authority as to the quality of training of-

ferred or is, according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation."

In the US, Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, and Indians are the minority races, once one steps foot on an HBCU campus Whites join that list and blacks become the majority race. In recent decades there has been an increase in the amount of minority students enrolling at HBCU's, that is the amount of Hispanics, Whites, Indians, Asians, and "others". The increase in numbers leads some to wonder what makes HBCU's appealing to non-black students.

Amina Pasha's case is an interesting one. Pasha looks Asian, or even White to some people, but she is actually Asian and Black. "My mother is Asian and my father is Black", Pasha explains.

When it came time for Pasha to decide what college to go to, she knew she wanted to go to an HBCU, "My high school was predominantly Black and Asian, so I was used to being around people of color. I thought going to a PWI (Predominantly White Institution) would be too much of a culture shock. I thought going to an HBCU would be a good experience, and my dad suggested A&T because at the time he was doing business with the school's Engineering Department. I also liked the size of A&T's campus as well as the school's class sizes"

Pasha's expectations of A&T were few, "I know I don't look black so I knew some people may look at me like 'Why is she here?' at first but I knew I would get over it. I also expected to see more of a mixed student body." Pasha says A&T turned out to be a completely different world than where she's from, but most of the differences are regional not racial. "I'm used to people from the west coast. We talk different, dress different, and listen to different type of rap music."

Pasha says that she doesn't feel the reaction from her fellow Aggies was a negative one. "Random people would come up to me and ask me 'What are you?' or 'What are you mixed with?' as soon as they met me. I didn't find that offensive though because I'd rather someone ask me than just stare at me and speculate."

Pasha hasn't exclusively dated anyone from A&T, but she has noticed that a lot of the male students at A&T only seemed interested in her because she was mixed; for instance many mentioned how they liked her long hair.

Most of Pasha's friends are black, "I didn't come to A&T to make friends with other Asians, that kind of defeats the purpose."

When it comes to being part of a minority race here at A&T Pasha says this, "Your experience here depends on your attitude. You can't walk around always being race conscious. Just enjoy your experience and don't let your race affect it."

inFOCUS



PHOTO BY KENNETH HAWKINS - THE A&T REGISTER

SHEER TERROR "Black Beard" is just one of the many characters at "Woods of Terror" this year.

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events

WEDNESDAY

14

Finals... Are You Ready?
Memorial Student Union
Stallings Ballroom
8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Meet the Deans Cookout
Memorial Student Union
Aggie Sit-In Courtyard
4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Miss SUAB Coronation
Memorial Student Union
Stallings Ballroom
6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Evolution of Hip Hop
Webb Hall
Room 100 Auditorium
7 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

15

12th Annual High School Media Day
Memorial Student Union
Stallings Ballroom
8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Producer/ DJ Battle
Memorial Student Union
Exhibit Hall
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Midnight Madness for Aggie Basketball
Corbett Sports Center
9 p.m.

FRIDAY

16

Coffee House Poetry Slam
Memorial Student Union
Exhibit Hall
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

SATURDAY

17

Fall Break through 10/20

SUNDAY

18

Army ROTC Memorial Service
Memorial Student Union
2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

MONDAY

19

No Classes for Fall Break

TUESDAY

20

No Classes for Fall break

Volleyball vs. NCCU
Moore Gymnasium
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Nobel jury defends Obama decision

IAN MACDOUGALL & KARL RITTER
Associated Press

OSLO (AP) — Members of the Norwegian committee that gave Barack Obama the Nobel Peace Prize are strongly defending their choice against a storm of criticism that the award was premature and a potential liability for the U.S. president.

Asked to comment on the uproar following Friday's announcement, four members of the five-seat panel told The Associated Press that they had expected the decision to generate both surprise and criticism.

Three of them rejected the notion that Obama hadn't accomplished anything to deserve the award, while the fourth declined to answer that question. A fifth member didn't answer calls seeking comment.

"We simply disagree that he has done nothing," committee chairman Thorbjørn Jagland told the AP on Tuesday. "He got the prize for what he has done."

Jagland singled out Obama's efforts to heal the divide between the West and the Muslim world and scale down a Bush-era proposal for an anti-missile shield in Europe.

"All these things have contributed to — I wouldn't say a safer world — but a world with less tension," Jagland said by phone from the French city of

Strasbourg, where he was attending meetings in his other role as secretary-general of the Council of Europe.

He said most world leaders were positive about the award and that most of the criticism was coming from the media and from Obama's political rivals.

"I take note of it. My response is only the judgment of the committee, which was unanimous," he said, adding that the award to Obama followed the guidelines set forth by Alfred Nobel, the Swedish industrialist and inventor of dynamite, who established the Nobel Prizes in his 1895 will.

"Alfred Nobel wrote that the prize should go to the person who has contributed most to the development of peace in the previous year," Jagland said. "Who has done more for that than Barack Obama?"

Agot Valle, a left-wing Norwegian politician who joined the Nobel panel this year, also dismissed suggestions that the decision to award Obama was without merit.

"Don't you think that comments like that patronize Obama? Where do these people come from?" Valle said by phone from the western coastal city of Bergen. "Well, of course, all arguments have to be considered seriously. I'm not afraid of a debate on the peace prize decision. That's fine."

In Friday's announcement, the committee said giving Obama the peace prize could be seen as an early vote of confidence intended to build global support for the policies of his young administration.

The left-leaning committee whose members are appointed by the Norwegian Parliament lauded the change in global mood wrought by Obama's calls for peace and cooperation, and praised his pledges to reduce the world stock of nuclear arms, ease U.S. conflicts with Muslim nations and strengthen the U.S. role in combating climate change.

However, the decision stunned even the most seasoned Nobel watchers.

They hadn't expected Obama, who took office barely two weeks before the Feb. 1 nomination deadline, to be seriously considered until at least next year.

The award drew heated derision from Obama's political opponents in the Republican party, and was even questioned by some members of Obama's own Democratic party, who wondered what the president had done to merit the \$1.4 million honor.

Michael S. Steele, chairman of the Republican National Committee, said naming Obama showed "how meaningless a once honorable and respected

award has become."

In a fundraising letter, Steele wrote that "the Democrats and their international leftist allies want America made subservient to the agenda of global redistribution and control."

And truly patriotic Americans like you and our Republican Party are the only thing standing in their way."

Columnist Thomas Friedman wrote in the New York Times that Obama "has not done anything yet on the scale that would normally merit such an award."

Even in Europe, where Obama is hugely popular, many editorials and pundits questioned what he had done to deserve the award.

"Scrap the Nobel Peace Prize," foreign affairs commentator Bronwen Maddox wrote in The Times of London.

"It's an embarrassment and even an impediment to peace. President Obama, in letting the committee award it to him, has made himself look vain, a fool and dangerously lost in his own mystique." Yet Obama was humble in acknowledging the prize.

"Let me be clear: I do not view it as a recognition of my own accomplishments, but rather as an affirmation of American leadership on behalf of aspirations held by people in all nations," Obama said Friday in the White House Rose Garden. "To

be honest, I do not feel that I deserve to be in the company of so many of the transformative figures who've been honored by this prize."

Nobel Committee member Inger-Marie Ytterhorn noted that the president didn't greet the news with joy.

"I looked at his face when he was on TV and confirmed that he would receive the prize and would come to Norway, and he didn't look particularly happy," she told AP.

Some of the most celebrated peace prize laureates include Martin Luther King, Mother Teresa and Nelson Mandela.

The award has occasionally honored more controversial figures, like the late Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat or former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Sometimes it raises the profile of peace workers or activists, such as Rigoberta Menchu of Guatemala in 1992 or Kenyan environmentalist Wangari Maathai in 2004.

"Whenever we award the peace prize, there is normally a big debate about it," said Ytterhorn, a nine-year veteran of the award committee.

Asked whether there was a risk that the prize could backfire on Obama by raising expectations even higher and give ammunition to his critics, Ytterhorn said "it might hamper him," because it could distract

from domestic issues such as health care reform.

Jagland said he didn't think the Nobel Peace Prize would hurt Obama domestically but added the committee did not take U.S. politics into consideration when making their decision.

"I'm not so familiar with American politics, and I don't want to interfere with it, because this is a totally independent committee," he said. "We should not look at internal politics."

Kaci Kullman Five, a former Conservative Party parliamentarian and longtime Nobel committee member, said "we all expected that there would be a discussion" about awarding Obama.

She declined further comment, deferring to the Nobel Peace Prize tradition of only having the committee chairman discuss prize selections publicly.

Valle, who left her seat in Parliament last week because of her Nobel panel appointment, said the criticism shouldn't overshadow important issues raised by the prize.

"Of course I expected disagreement and debate on the prize, on giving him the prize," she said. "But what I want now is that we seriously raise a discussion regarding nuclear disarmament."

Limbaugh down 1 vote in bid to buy Rams

JIMMY GOLEN
Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Rush Limbaugh's bid to buy the St. Louis Rams ran into opposition within the NFL on Tuesday. Colts owner Jim Irsay vowed to vote against him, and commissioner Roger Goodell said the conservative commentator's "divisive" comments would not be tolerated from any NFL insider.

"I, myself, couldn't even consider voting for him," Irsay said at an owners meetings.

"When there are comments that have been made that are inappropriate, incendiary and insensitive ... our words do damage, and it's something that we don't need."

Limbaugh has long been a hero of conservatives and villain to the left, thriving on his place in the political spectrum while establishing himself as one of the most successful broadcasters in history.

But the NFL tries to avoid controversy, as Limbaugh

learned in 2003 when he was forced to resign from ESPN's Sunday night football broadcast after saying of Philadelphia's Donovan McNabb:

"I think what we've had here is a little social concern in the NFL. The media has been very desirous that a black quarterback do well."

"Divisive comments are not what the NFL is all about," commissioner Roger Goodell said. "I would not want to see those kind of comments from people who are in a responsible position in the NFL."

Limbaugh also said, according to transcripts posted on his Web site: "The NFL all too often looks like a game between the Bloods and the Crips without any weapons. There, I said it."

That comment, and others, resurfaced this month when he revealed he is teaming with St. Louis Blues owner Dave Checketts to bid on the Rams.

Goodell said the Rams updated the league on the progress

of their potential sale, but bidders were not discussed.

"They're not certain they are even sellers," New York Giants co-owner Steve Tisch said, adding that he expected a decision by the end of the season.

"We can't speculate on potential owners because they have not brought up any names to put before ownership."

It's out there, but without confirmation from the Rams or the Rosenbloom family, frankly, we don't know who the potential buyers are."

Patriots owner Robert Kraft referred questions about Limbaugh to the commissioner. Texans owner Bob McNair said anyone who meets the "normal criteria" is a candidate to own a team.

"But our vetting process is very thorough," he said.

Prominent blacks are already lining up against Limbaugh, including the Revs. Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton.

NFL Players Association head DeMaurice Smith, who

also is black, urged players to speak out against Limbaugh's bid, and several have already said they would not play for his team.

But Irsay is the first owner who has stated unequivocally he would reject Limbaugh if it comes up for a vote. Prospective owners must be approved by 24 of the league's 32 teams.

Irsay said at first that he would consult with people he respected, such as defensive lineman Dwight Freeney, coach Jim Caldwell and former coach Tony Dungy, all of whom are black. But later, the owner said he did not need to get anyone else's input before rejecting someone who made a habit of "demonizing individuals."

"I met Rush only once. He seemed like a nice guy to me and all those kind of things," Irsay said.

"It's bigger than the NFL. As a nation, and as a world, we've got to watch our words and our thoughts. They can do damage."



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GATES OPEN AT 8:00 PM

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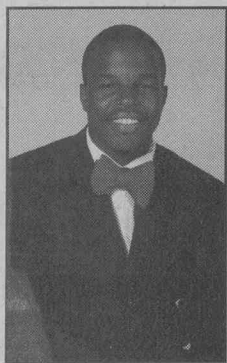
GENERAL ADMISSION \$13.00
WWW.MOUNTAINOFTERROR.COM

Want free tickets to go to the WOODS OF TERROR? Bring us the answers to these questions found in this weeks issue:

1. Where is the downtown Variety Goods Greek store located?
2. What is Amina Pasha's major and classification?
3. Who invented dynamite?
4. What are the duties of the SGA treasurer?
5. What is the mascot of Morgan State University?

Bring your quizzes to General Classroom Building room A328. We will give out a limited number of tickets. One per winner. Quizzes are Due by NOON Thursday. While supplies last.

THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH



Grade:



What he's supposed to do:

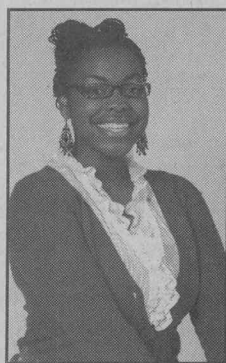
- Be the official representation of the student body
- Appoint the Student Supreme Court
- Appoint a parliamentarian
- Preside over all meetings
- Be a member of the Board of Trustees
- Be Chair of the Executive Branch
- Maintain office hours
- Attend home sporting events
- Hold a full body meeting once a month except the last week of each semester
- Help implement programs/activities i.e. Homecoming, Spring-Fest, etc.

What he promised he'd do during his term:

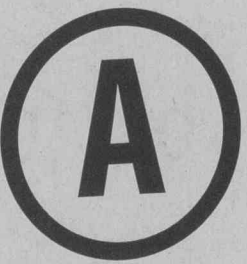
- Establish increased security on campus
- Create a transparent organization
- Uplift the student body
- Recommit students to the university
- Having homecoming artists from various other states
- Having "Quantity v. Quality Artists" - more people for less
- Improve Financial Aid and increase funding
- Reach out to the minorities of A&T
- Have an accountable budget
- Maintain an open door policy

What he's actually done so far:

- Delivered information to students via facebook about H1N1 prevention
- Did a bi-weekly video address to students from May-August
- Established new committees and projects: Communication, 1891 Pound Challenge, Political Action & Go Green
- Sitting on a community committee for the 30th Anniversary for the Greensboro Massacre
- Attended City Council Meeting and spoke out against the possible opening of the White St. Landfill
- -In process of having Financial Aid Forum



Grade:



What she's supposed to do:

- Assist the President
- Perform the duties of the President in the event of his/her absence or incapacity
- Be the Speaker of the Student Senate and serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member of all Senatorial committees, except nominating and elections committee
- Shall administer the oath of office and handle resignations
- Forward all legislative acts to the President within 3 days
- Be a member of the Executive Branch
- Maintain office hours
- Attended home sporting events
- Help implement programs/activities i.e. Homecoming, Spring-Fest, etc.

What she promised she'd do during her term:

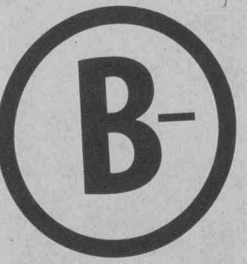
- Uphold the constitution
- Inform the public of all senate meetings
- Keep all meetings open unless absolutely necessary
- Have senate training
- Use the senate to represent the concerns of students

What she's actually done so far:

- Currently serving on the search committee for a new Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (meets weekly)
- Serving on 2009-2010 Campus Safety Advisory Committee
- Made over 15 appointments to the Senate
- Held Senate training
- Representative to the University of North Carolina Association of Student Governments (meets monthly)
- Appointed first historian of the senate
- Maintains office hours



Grade:



TRAVIS JACKSON
VICE PRESIDENT

What he's supposed to do:

- Assist the President
- Be responsible for the public relations of SGA
- Work with campus and community organizations
- Be responsible for directing and/or assisting in all research

- projects
- Responsible for corresponding with national, state, and local organizations to which SGA has membership
- Maintain office hours
- Attend home sporting events
- Help implement programs/activities i.e. Homecoming, Spring-Fest, etc.

What he promised he'd do during his term:

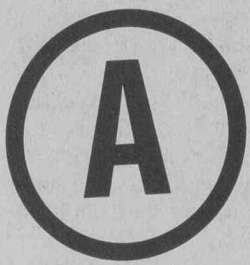
- Three major initiatives: Unity, Diversity, Communication
- Bridging the gap between students, faculty, and administration
- Unite the "BIG 5" so that students needs are properly met
- Have a more diversified representation in student involvement
- Reach out to non African-American students
- Diversity week once a semester
- Collaboration with International Programs and Multicultural Student Center
- Create university promotion team
- Use student organizations like PRSSA to promote

What he's actually done so far:

- Serves on 50th anniversary Sit-in Celebration committee
- Created A&T Promotions
- Booked artists Gucci Mane, OJ Da Juiceman, Keri Hilson, Trey Songz, and others for the homecoming concert
- Booked Arnez J, Kevin Hart, Leslie and Ton-X for the homecoming comedy show
- Booked James Fortune for the homecoming gospel concert



Grade:



What she's supposed to do:

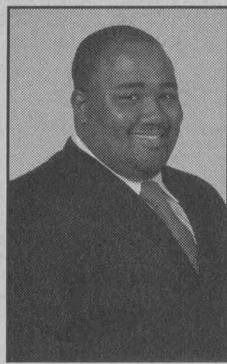
- Be responsible for clerical duties and general office management
- Give minutes to interested parties upon request
- Be a member of the executive branch
- Help implement programs/activities i.e. Homecoming, Spring-Fest, etc.
- Maintain office hours
- Attended home sporting events

What she promised she'd do during her term:

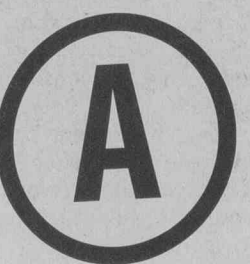
- Provide transparency and open communication
- Keep the website updated
- Create different methods for students to contact SGA (call, email, or through the website)

What she's actually done so far:

- Handled all room requests for any SGA event
- Contacted a website designer and had a new site designed:- www.ncatsga.com
- Takes accurate minutes
- Provides the minutes as requested
- maintains the website



Grade:



MASON JONES
TREASURER

What he's supposed to do:

- Distribute all monies appropriated by the Student Senate
- Sign all purchase requisitions, travel forms and other documents pertaining to finance
- Serve as an ex-officio member of the finance committee
- Attend all scheduled finance committee meetings
- Make monthly written reports to SGA on transactions
- Attended home sporting events
- Maintain office hours
- Help implement programs/activities i.e. Homecoming, Spring-Fest, etc.

What he promised he'd do during his term:

- Uphold the constitution
- Closely monitor all funds in the budget

What he's actually done so far:

- Provided the SGA budget on request multiple times
- Worked with finance committee to revise budget appropriately
- Effectively managed monies allocated to SGA

- halls-recieves said information from the Dean of Students
- Recieves charges against an accused student at every level of the student court system
- Presides over all cases before any student courts
- Request any student to serve as a material witness
- Must hold a session to educate students of the process, and their rights and responsibilities

What he promised he'd do during his term:

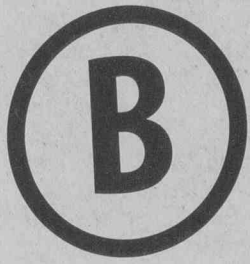
- Uphold the constitution
- Hear all cases justly and equally enforce the rules

What he's actually done so far:

- Had HIV/Syphilis screenings during Welcome Week
- Appointed 8 members to the Judiciary Committee
- Conducted residence hall meetings in all dorms on campus along with the judiciary council and Dr. Rashid to inform students of their rights and responsibilities, and the process
- Recorded PSA with Capt. Barry Black of the UPD stressing safety during homecoming
- Safety town hall meeting Scheduled for this Thursday, Oct. 15 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Stallings Ballroom in collaboration with UPD
- Safety forum with UPD November 5 in at 5 p.m. in Harrison Auditorium



Grade:



NGOZI OPARA
MISS N.C. A&T

What she's supposed to do:

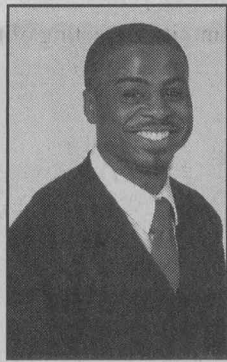
- Must serve as the official female representation of the student body
- Be flexible to speak to campus and community groups when the request arises
- Must make preparation for speeches and pageant competitions available in advance for advisor to review
- Maintain office hours
- Attend home sporting events
- Must be available upon request
- Must provide be accessible for major University events
- Be mistress of ceremony at the Miss A&T Forum
- Initiate and carry out at least two community service programs each semester

What she promised she'd do during her term:

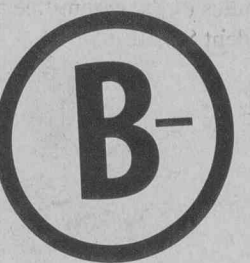
- Uphold the constitution

What she's actually done so far:

- Planned a major event in the spring semester "For Sister's Only"
- Won Second Place (first runner up) in the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame competition in Atlanta
- Attended all mandatory events
- Given speeches at numerous campus events



Grade:



AUSTIN JAMES
MR. N.C. A&T

What he's supposed to do:

- Must serve as the official male representation of the student body
- Be flexible to speak to campus and community groups when the request arises
- Must make preparation for speeches and pageant competitions available in advance for advisor to review
- Maintain office hours
- Attend home sporting events
- Must be available upon request
- Must provide be accessible for major University events
- Be master of ceremony at the Mr. A&T Forum
- Initiate and carry out at least two community service programs each semester

What he promised he'd do during his term:

- Uphold the constitution

What he's actually done so far:

- Attended all mandatory events
- Given speeches at numerous campus events
- Preparing for the Mr. HBCU Pageant in Missouri this spring

THE APPOINTEES

GARY BROWN

CHIEF OF STAFF

OCTAVIA OCEAN

PARLIMENTARIAN

While they may not have duties spelled out in the constitution, these two are no less important to the process of student government. Recently, however, they have come under a lot of fire for their comments and have had their qualifications called into question. There is no doubt, however, that these two play a critical role in the success of the administration.

C

D

THE PURPOSE: As the governing body of North Carolina A&T, the Student Government Association is evaluated by the media just like any other media organization would evaluate the government of this country and its effectiveness for the people it represents. For A&T, that would be the students that SGA is supposed to advocate for. The Register graded all the elected officials which would include the Executive Board (President, Vice President, etc.) and the SGA Senate. **THE CRITERIA:** Every elected official was graded on the following things: Their execution of their constitutional duties as described in the 2009-2010 student handbook, their commitment to the promises they made during their campaigns, and their effectiveness for their constituents. All parties were asked seven full days prior to the release of this report card to provide any documentation or materials they felt would display the work they had completed thus far. For the Senate, Vice President of Internal Affairs Valerie Dudley was the contact person as she is the President of the Student Senate. **IMPORTANT DATES:** Since their inauguration on April 15, 2009, the Executive Board has been in office 185 days. There are 163 days left in their term, or until the next SGA elections, and they only have 178 days left in office until their full year lapses. This would place the next election on Wednesday, March 24, 2010, and the swearing in of the next group of leaders on Saturday, April 10, 2009. This would likely be moved to that Wednesday April 8, or later on the next week do to it falling on the weekend.

★ ★ THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ★ ★

Finance Committee

Grade:



What they're supposed to do:

- The full Senate shall elect the chair of the Finance Committee
- Consideration and/or development of all bills that pertain to financial

matters

- Develop and report the proposed annual budget to the Student Senate for approval

What they've actually done so far:

- Produced an annual re-evaluation of the SGA budget, in which they reduced sections they felt were unnecessary and saved approximately \$4050
- First time in a long time that the budget has actually been analyzed
- There are several bills being drafted to present to the senate

Grade:



Judicial Committee

What they're supposed to do:

- Consider and review bills that pertain to the

judicial and electoral systems

- Review the positions of the executive board of the SGA and Senate to ensure that all duties are being fulfilled properly

What they've actually done so far:

- Put on the SGA review to analyze the decisions regarding Homecoming

Rules Committee

Grade:



What they're supposed to do:

- Consider and report all bills pertaining to the Constitution of the Student Senate
- Originate amendments of the Constitution of the Student Senate

- Prepare and administer a test on Parliamentary Procedure to all new senators and assist them to pass it within two weeks of their official seating
- Review absences of the Student Senate or from committee meetings
- Correct and approve the minutes of each meeting of the Student Senate within two weeks
- The Clerk of the Student Senate shall submit a copy of the minutes of the committee at the next committee meeting of the Student Senate

What they've actually done so far:

- Created and administered the Parliamentary Procedure test to all the senators
- Corrected and approved minutes as needed

Ways and Means Committee

Grade:



What they're supposed to do:

- Consider and report all bills that do not pertain to matters, for which specific standing and special committees have

been established

- Originate or amend such bills falling within its jurisdiction as it may desire
- All reports to the Senate by individuals and Student Government committees shall be submitted to the Ways and Means Committee to see that these reports are received and reported to the Senate and where appropriate, Conveyed to other standing committees
- **What they've actually done so far:**
- No reports have been given to them, so as of now, they haven't had anything to do

Grade:



Campus Life Committee

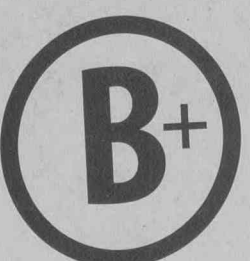
What they're supposed to do:

- Ensure that the concept of the University community is realized
- Investigate and find plausible solutions for student concerns pertaining but not limited to food services, residence life, and safety

What they've actually done so far:

- Working with Academic Affairs to put on Senate Meet and Greet
- Planning multiple forums this year
- Working with FEMA regarding flooding in Cooper

Grade:



Academic Affairs Committee

What they're supposed to do:

- Meet with the Deans respectively
- Investigate student concerns
- Ensure that their peers are receiving the superior education by expressing effective communication between members of the University Community
- Meet with the faculty to ensure that the environment of the classroom as well as the academic excellence of the University Community continues to grow

What they've actually done so far:

- Held UNST forum
- Worked with Campus Life to do to put on Senate Meet and Greet
- Cookout with the Deans later today
- Working on Dessert with the Deans

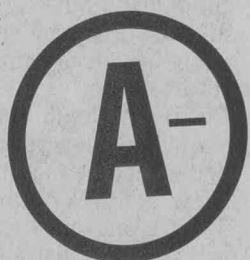
QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE SENATE:

- This is the fourty-second Student Senate
- There are a total of 37 Senators
- There should be 42 Senators, but the School of Technology does not have any representatives, as no one ran or applied during the appointment period
- The senate is composed of eight districts: Arts and Sciences, Engineering, Business and Economics, Technology, Education, Agriculture, Nursing, and Graduate Studies
- Students who are "undecided" are counted as part of Arts and Sciences
- The full Senate meets every two weeks
- Committees are supposed to meet in-between full meetings

★ ★ THE JUDICIAL BRANCH ★ ★

Judiciary Council

Grade:



- Member with the highest number of votes is the chairperson
- Control all Judicial power of the SGA
- Tape all meetings
- Have Original Jurisdiction on cases that that involve student behavior, infractions of major social rules, and infractions of University regulations governing student conduct-limited to infractions within the residence halls
- Can recommend to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs/Dean of Students the imposition of penalties consisting of a warning, reprimand, probation, or suspension or any of the sanctions as listed in the Student Conduct Sanction of the Handbook
- All hearings are closed

What they're supposed to do:

- Be composed of 11 elected members
- Have a Student Supreme Court appointed by the President of no 10 members from a list of names of no less than 15 students submitted by the Senate

What they've actually done so far:

- Were appointed 8 members to the Judiciary Committee by Attorney General Daniel Davis
- Held five cases to date

GLOSSARY OF TERMS:

- Jurisdiction-The official power to make legal decisions and judgments
- Original Jurisdiction-The original jurisdiction of a court is the right to hear a case for the first time as opposed to appellate jurisdiction when a court has the right to review a lower court's decision. In the United States these courts are also referred to as trial courts.
- Appeals-To apply to a higher court for reversal of a decision of the lower court

What do you think?
Send us your SGA grades to
theatregister@gmail.com

OVERALL GRADES

Executive Branch:

B-

Legislative Branch:

B+

Judicial Branch:

A

The Entire SGA:

A-

WHY THEY GOT WHAT THEY GOT

Executive Branch

Syene:

- While he may have had a very good point about the homecoming concert, he went about it the wrong way.
- He has not filled a majority of his platform, and is moving very slowly on lots of it
 - Not the best public speaker

Valerie:

- She is keeping all meetings open to the public
 - Conducted Senate training
- Fulfilling the constitutional roles as needed

Travis:

- As the Homecoming "survey" shows, he isn't reaching enough students
- Should have had a bigger say in the fallout of the Homecoming situation

Whitney:

- Whitney has managed to turn over minutes and documents in very short amounts of time
- She created a new SGA website neatsga.com

Mason:

- The budget is balanced, and has the potential to have a surplus for the first time in three years

Daniel:

- Extremely focused on safety
- Fulfilling all of his obligations

Ngozi:

- Won second place (first runner up) in the Miss HBCU Pageant
 - Not very accessible to students
 - Has had only one program so far
 - As far as we know, she hasn't done any community service

Austin:

- Hasn't had any programs yet
- As far as we know, he hasn't done any community service

Gary:

- Irresponsible decision making by accompanying Syene to go on WXII to speak about Homecoming
 - He specifically said that Gucci was "definitely affiliated" with gang violence

Octavia:

- Doesn't know Parliamentary Procedure

Legislative Branch:

- Even though it's only been a few weeks, they have done a lot of work
- The Senate didn't convene until late in the semester
- Some of the senators clearly still do not know Parliamentary Procedure

Finance:

- This is the first time in a very long time that there has been a thorough review of the SGA Budget by the Senate

Judicial:

- The Special Session to review the Homecoming situation was called together very quickly, but it was a complete mess
- They need to learn to control their attitudes and keep their personal feelings separate from their work

Rules:

- There is no reason Senators are still making motions and calling "acclamation" without really knowing what it means
- The Register shouldn't have to tell the Senate when they can and cannot go into closed session per the North Carolina Open Meetings Law

Ways and Means:

- They really haven't had anything to do

Campus Life:

- They are doing great, they just need to find a way to handle more student issues

Academic Affairs:

- There is much more pressure being put on faculty to actually do their jobs now that people are asking questions

Judicial Branch:

- Simply put, they're doing their job

Judiciary Council:

- Simply put, they're doing their job

Lady volleyball team struggles continue

SHALON BELL
Register Reporter

The struggling woes continue as the Aggie Volleyball team favor suffered another loss at Norfolk State this past weekend.

The Lady Aggies were defeated 3-0 at Gill Gym Friday night.

Tiffany Mellette led the Aggies with 11 kills and five digs in the match against Norfolk.



Tiffany MELLETTE

The Aggies fell behind in the first set 22-18.

Attack errors by Norfolk States, Aurelia Isham and Nicole Kessner brought the Aggies to within two.

Lady Aggies senior captain Janae Mitchell took a set from Amber Inman and spiked it down to earn another point for the Aggies.

It decreased the margin to two with the Spartans maintaining the lead and they never gave it up.

They ended with a kill from Elayne Greer and eventually an

attack error by freshman Kaineisha Winfield and Kesser kill gave the Lady Spartans the first set.

After being dominated in the second set, the Lady Aggies led 19-16 in the third set.

The two teams went back-and-forth until Ellica Morris of the Spartans brought the score to a 24-23 lead.

Back-to-back kills from Kessner and Angie Clevis gave the Spartans the victory.

The Lady Aggies (1-20, 0-1) will step outside of conference play on Sunday when they face Winston-Salem State on the road at 3 p.m.

Before returning home, the Aggie Team also has road conference games against Bethune-Cookman and Florida A&M. They will finally return home to play N.C. Central on Oct. 20 before playing four straight home conference games.

AGGIES RUNDOWN

FOOTBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
Florida A&M	2-0	4-1
Morgan State	2-0	4-1
South Carolina State	2-0	4-1
Hampton	2-1	3-2
North Carolina A&T	1-2	3-3
Norfolk State	1-2	2-3
Delaware State	1-2	1-3
Bethune-Cookman	1-3	1-4
Howard	0-2	2-3

UPCOMING GAMES:

Saturday Oct. 17 vs. Delaware State (the Aggies gain forfeit victory Sunday at midnight)

Saturday Oct. 24 vs. Howard Washington, D.C. 1 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
MD Eastern Shore	2-0	13-6
Florida A&M	2-0	6-7
Howard	2-0	6-18
Bethune-Cookman	1-0	6-10
Delaware State	1-1	11-11
Hampton	1-1	5-13
Norfolk State	1-1	4-15
North Carolina A&T	0-1	1-19
South Carolina State	0-2	7-14
Morgan State	0-2	5-16
Coppin State	0-2	1-21

UPCOMING GAMES:

Friday vs. Bethune-Cookman Daytona Beach, Fla. 7 p.m.

Sunday vs. Coppin State Tallahassee, Fla. 8 p.m.

AROUND SPORTS

STALEY'S OPTIMISM

ALABAMA (AP) — South Carolina coach Dawn Staley sees a much brighter — and taller — picture than she did a year ago. The Gamecocks second-year coach says her team is further along than in her disastrous debut season. That's when South Carolina went 10-18 and Staley was surprised by some players who didn't put forth the drive and effort she felt necessary to win. Staley says that won't be a problem this year.

MONDAY NIGHT BRAWL

MIAMI (AP) — Authorities say a 24-year-old man is recovering after he was stabbed while trying to buy a ticket to the Miami Dolphins-New York Jets game. Miami Gardens police spokesman Bill Bamford said Tuesday that John Langsett was stabbed outside Land Shark Stadium on Monday night after an argument started while he was negotiating a ticket sale. Police say Hamin Basim Ansar pulled out a pocket knife and stabbed Langsett in the chest and back of the head. The 51-year-old Ansar was arrested and charged with attempted second-degree murder.

The Associated Press

THIS DAY IN SPORTS

1906 - The White Sox, known as baseball's 'hitless wonders' complete their World Series upset of their crosstown rivals beating the Cubs, 8-3 at South Side Park. The Cubs had won a record 116 regular season games.

Florida court opposes NCAA

BILL CACZOR
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE (AP) — A Florida appellate court again has rebuffed the NCAA's effort to prevent public disclosure of documents on academic cheating at Florida State.

The documents, with students' names blacked out, could be released as early as Wednesday, said Carol Jean LoCicero, an attorney for The Associated Press and other news media.

LoCicero's clients sued the NCAA, Florida State and the university's outside law firm under the state's open-records "sunshine" laws.

The 1st District Court of Appeal late Monday denied the college athletics organization's motions for a rehearing or certification of the case to the Florida Supreme Court as a question of great public importance.

The NCAA still could ask the state high court to review the case and block release of the documents until the justices make a decision. That will be difficult, though, because of strong trial and appellate court rulings that found the documents to be public records.

"Their options are certainly narrowing down to not much," LoCicero said.

An NCAA spokesman did not immediately return a telephone message seeking comment.

The main document at issue is the transcript of an NCAA hearing held at its Indianapolis headquarters and attended by Florida State President T.K. Wetherell and athletic director Randy Spetman last October.

An NCAA committee then proposed taking wins away from coaches and athletes — even those not implicated in the cheating. That's besides Florida State's self-imposed penalties, which included the loss of athletic scholarships and suspension of those who cheated on an online music history test.

Florida State is appealing the loss of victories.

Football coach Bobby Bowden could lose 14 wins, and that would diminish his already dwindling chances of overtaking Penn State's Joe Paterno as major college football's winningest coach.

Paterno has 388 victories. Bowden is four behind.

The NCAA tried to keep the documents secret by putting them on a read-only, secure Web site that could be accessed by Florida State's outside lawyers rather than sending them to the university on paper or through conventional electronic means such as e-mail.

The courts, though, have ruled such technological schemes cannot be used to circumvent the state's public records law.

The lawsuit also sought the university's response to the proposed penalty.

The school, though, already has released the response after manually transcribing it from the read-only Web site.

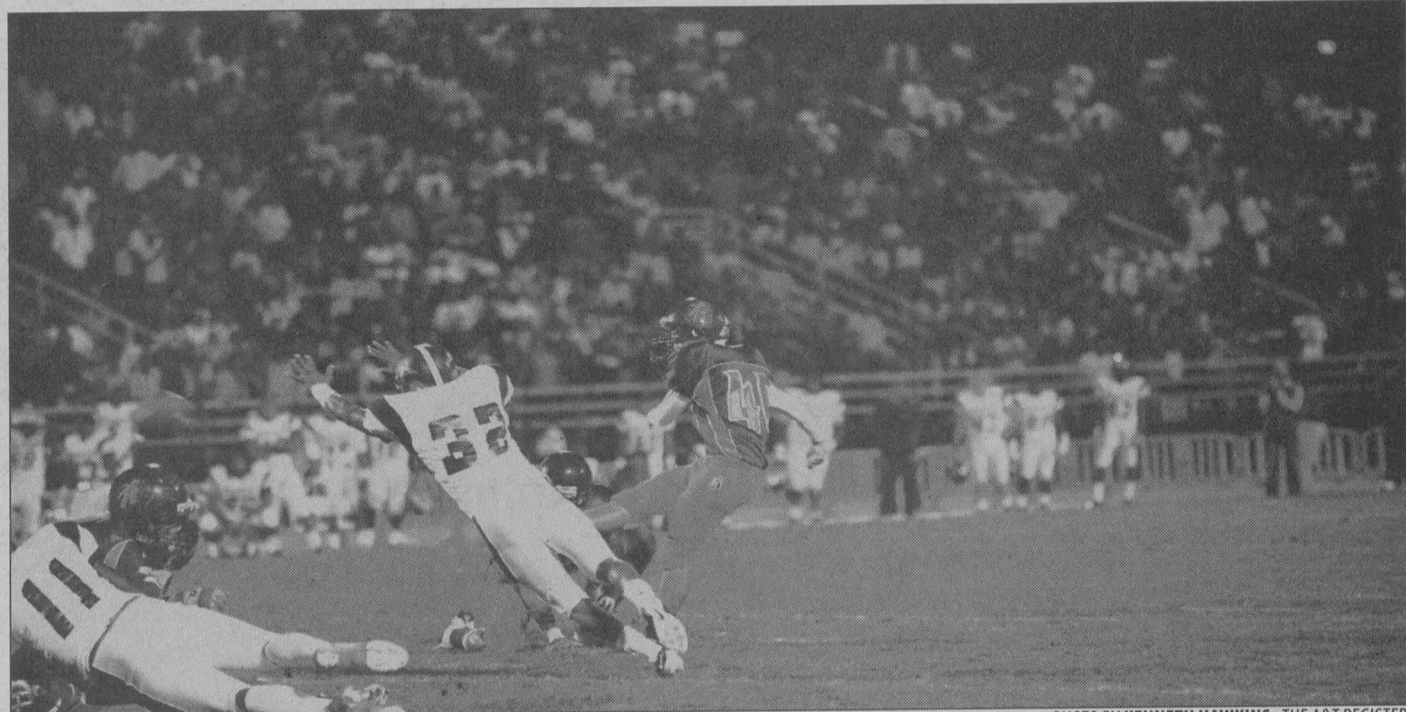


PHOTO BY KENNETH HAWKINS - THE A&T REGISTER

PATRICK COURTNEY missed three of the Aggies four missed field goals in their shortcoming of spoiling Morgan State's homecoming Saturday afternoon. The Aggies dropped to 3-3 overall.

Missed opportunities

A&T misses three field goals in 7-6 loss to Morgan State

PRINCE ASKEW
Register Reporter

Saturday's game against the Morgan State Bears was one that A&T could have won. However, missed opportunities left the Aggies on the short end of a 7-6 game. It was a game where the defense dominated MSU and held them to a total of 224 offensive yards. They also forced five turnovers on two interceptions and three fumble recoveries.

During potential game-breaking plays, the Aggies were unable to find ways to capitalize on those opportunities. The offense found itself in MSU territory nine out of 14 possessions, and they made it to the red zone on four out of those nine possessions. Regardless of the time spent in MSU territory, the Aggies would score only once, starting with a recovered muffed punt on the Bears' 11-yard line.

Tony Coles would score on a 1-yard run three plays later. The game-tying extra point was blocked.

The Aggies missed out on 13 other points as well. There was a 103-yard kickoff returned by Justin Ferrell for a touchdown that was called back because of an illegal block. There were also two missed field goals, accounting for another missed six points.

The second field goal attempt came on the final drive of the game. The Aggies took the ball from their own 35 yard line and drove it down to the Bears' 25. With no timeouts remaining and 50 seconds left in the game, quarterback Carlton Fears lost nine yards when he lost his footing on a roll-out to the right. Fears said he tried to plant on his inside foot. "That's a cardinal sin when you're trying to cut, and my feet just came from under me." Wallace Miles and the A&T special teams had to

rush onto the field for a hurried 51-yard potential game-winning field goal, but the kick came up short. "Wallace had a lot of leg on that kick, but he was rushed," said head coach Alonzo Lee.

"We had every opportunity to put it away today. We played hard, we made some big plays defensively, but we failed to step up to the mic again when we got the ball in the red zone. We simply have to find a way to get the ball in the end zone," said Lee.

Though the team is far better off than they were a year ago, Fears knows they can be better. "We have to take advantage of every opportunity we're given, and we just have not done that this year."

The Aggies (3-3) will have a 4-3 record on midnight of Oct. 18 because of a forfeit by Delaware State. The next game will come on Oct. 24, when they travel to Washington D.C. to face Howard.

'Midnight madness' kicks off A&T basketball season

DANIEL HENDERSON
Sports Editor

The North Carolina A&T men and women basketball team will be hosting their midnight madness celebration at midnight this Thursday in the Corbett Sports Arena.

October 15 will mark the first day of basketball practice for the Aggies and all of the NCAA schools for the 2009-10 season.

The event will include a 3-point shooting contest, slam-dunk contest, 20-minute scrimmage between the lady Aggies, and live performances from the blue-and-gold cheerleaders; marching band and blue reign.

There will also be a dance competition and "best dressed" contest.

The admission is free and the doors will open at 8 p.m.

The event serves as an energy booster that athletic departments across the country use to pump up

the season for their school fans.

"The students at North Carolina A&T make the atmosphere at Corbett one of the most intimidating places to play in the country," said athletic director Wheeler Brown. "We are adamant about furthering that tradition while at the same time strengthening the bond between our students and athletics department. Midnight Madness will serve as an opportunity to get our student-athletes and student body excited about the upcoming season."

Both teams are coming off improved seasons in 2008-09.

The Lady Aggies won their second consecutive MEAC regular season title under reigning conference coach of the year Patricia Cage-Bibbs and advanced to the WNCAA tournament for the first time in over a decade.

They fell short to ACC's Florida State University 83-71 in Duluth Ga. After

posting a 26-6 record which marked the greatest season in the team's history.

They'll kick off the season with a demanding schedule that includes 2007 women's national champion runner-up LSU, New Mexico State's tournament, and Iowa State's tournament.

"Our fans are the best fans in the country," said women's basketball coach Patricia Cage-Bibbs.

"Their support has been a big part of our success. I'm sure they will be excited about getting the season started this way."

"We're not just happy with making the (WNCAA) tournament," said Bibbs. "We want to go there and win. Playing a schedule like this will get us prepared to achieve that goal because we'll get a chance to play against different styles of play."

The Aggie Men's basketball squad didn't advance as far as the ladies when they lost in the

MEAC Quarterfinals this past March but did achieve their first .500 record after finishing 16-16 season since 1994-95.

It was the first time they posted at least this many wins since the 1993-94 season when they finished 16-14. They open the season at home against Division II. Brevard College before they hit the road to take on major conference schools that include: Texas El Paso, Northwestern, Miami, and Tennessee. "Our ultimate goal is to reach the NCAA Tournament," said N.C. A&T head coach Jerry Eaves.

"We need to see different styles of play, we need to play in certain type of venues and we need to build confidence going forward."

"Midnight Madness gives our players a chance to have a little fun before the business of going after a championship begins."

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MOVIE REVIEW: WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

'Where The Wild Things Are' is a bad dream

MATT NETTHEIM
MCT Campus

Why is everyone in "Where the Wild Things Are" so insanely depressed?

A 100-minute riff on Maurice Sendak's 336-word children's book, the film introduces us to the sullen, unruly Max (Max Records), who acts out after his sister's friends destroy his snow fort, and his single mother (Catherine Keener) dares to have a man (Mark Ruffalo) over for dinner.

Fleeing from his home, Max journeys to a magical land populated by large, furry, bizarrely passive-aggressive creatures searching for a king who will help them keep away the loneliness and sadness.

The matter of why these creatures are so miserable; they're alternately struggling with anger-management issues; low self-esteem and megalomania, is never addressed.

Little of this backstory, of course, comes from Sendak's novel; in the book, Max tames the animals, leads them in a rowdy party and then goes home before they can eat him.

But director Spike Jonze ("Adaptation") and his co-writer Dave Eggers ("A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius") have decided to transform "Where the Wild Things Are" into the ultimate ode to hipster alienation.

Much like "Garden State," this visually striking but entirely uninvolved movie is an elaborate exercise in emo melancholia.

It's the product of a generation raised on Prozac and Paxil, taught to think that the only subject that matters is your own self-absorption.

What it is not, even by the most creative of estimations, is a movie for kids. Photographed

by the gifted Lance Acord ("Marie Antoinette") mostly on the coast of Australia, with an anxious, handheld camera and natural light streaming across the frame, "Where the Wild Things Are" deliberately eschews anything warm, fuzzy or comforting. When Max meets the creatures, late into the night, they leer into the camera and debate about whether they should eat this little boy; a vision that might be described as Felliniesque if there were even an iota of joy coming off the screen.

They don't eat him (we could only be so lucky that the movie would be over so soon). Instead, "Where the Wild Things Are" follows Max as he develops friendships with Carol (voice by James Gandolfini), who expresses his anger by smashing things up, and KW (Lauren Ambrose), who feels no connection to the clan and keeps drifting away to spend time with a pair of owls.

I get the idea that all of these creatures; along with the meek, goatlike figure Alexander (Paul Dano) and the conniving, unicorn-looking Judith (Catherine O'Hara); are extension of Max's own personality. But that doesn't mean you would want to spend any time with them, certainly not considering that most of the "plot" consists of these figures chatting and wandering aimlessly. If anyone sat through Gus Van Sant's "Gerry," in which Matt Damon and Casey Affleck walk and walk and walk some more through the desert and wondered, "What would that be like as a children's movie?" well, here's your answer.

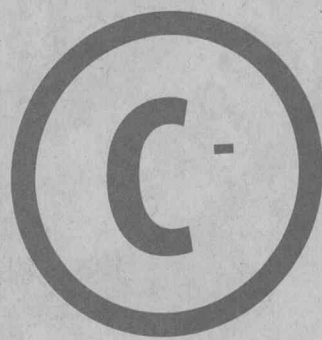
"Where the Wild Things Are" is certainly impressive to stare it. Using a minimum of CGI, Jonze does a marvelous job setting this small boy alongside these very large creatures and creating a universe that seems all of

a piece. But there is no reason to care about what's happening; and even in the supposedly upbeat moments; the famous "wild rumpus," for instance, rendered here all too quickly as an indie-rock montage; no one seems to be having any fun. And while there's a certain integrity in making Max such a difficult, abrasive figure, it also makes it impossible to root for him.

By the time Max climbs inside KW's mouth to escape the hungry jaws of Carol, and then emerges cold, wet and goo-covered, "Where the Wild Things Are" seems determined to claim a dubious honor: the Most Depressing Children's Movie Ever Made.

You couldn't exactly call this a betrayal of the source material; the creatures gorgeously approximate Sendak's original drawings, and the author reportedly loves this film version; so much as a sadistic perversion. For anyone who thought the novel was about channeling frustration into creative and cathartic fantasy, think again. In Jonze and Eggers' treatment, it's about how difficult it is to be a genius, and how very horrible it is when no one "gets" you.

Grade



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20 QUESTIONS

1. Is it us or does the Aggie football team come through in the clutch, like a purse?
2. If the kicker tried to kick himself off the team would he still miss?
3. Can he be compared to Shaq and free throws?
4. So did you get the memo the new kicker is a wide receiver?
5. Why don't we just throw to him instead of trying to kick?
6. Will the coaches read these questions?
7. Should the coaches go scouting at the soccer games in the Holland bowl?
8. Why hasn't that blue squad cheerleader gotten a bigger skirt yet?
9. Do the cheerleaders need a budget like Miss A&T?
10. Have you seen the Greeks practicing their steps walking to class?
11. Do you feel like you've seen parts of the whole show already?
12. How did President Obama win the Nobel Peace prize when we're at war?
13. Why do we have a Mr. Aggie and a Mr. A&T?
14. Shouldn't Mr. Aggie be called Mr. SUAB?
15. Did you know a non-black student won Miss Hampton University?
16. What about a white student winning Miss Kentucky State University?
17. Do you play Mafia Wars on Facebook?
18. Do Facebook and Twitter have sibling rivalry?
19. Is Twitter the new juicy campus?
20. How many of your friends will be taking a permanent Fall Break after Christmas?