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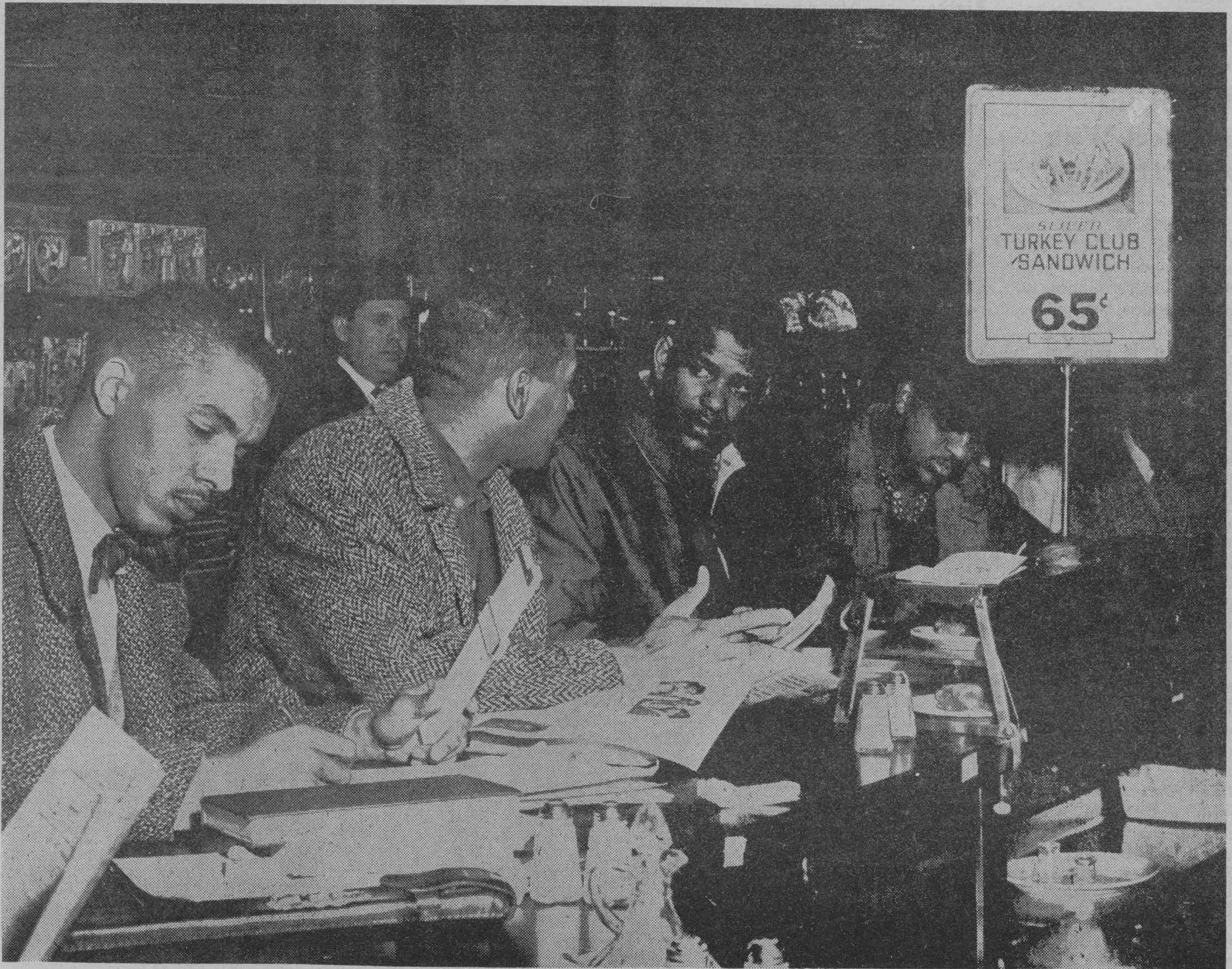
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THE A & T REGISTER

"COMPLETE AWARENESS FOR COMPLETE COMMITMENT"

VOLUME LII NUMBER 24 NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL & TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY, GREENSBORO, NC Friday January 30, 1981



Students from A&T College began Monday afternoon what they called a "passive sitdown demand" for service at the customer lunch counter at Woolworth's downtown five and dime store in Greensboro. Shown above are five students who while they sit-are getting in a little study time.

Freshman Group Stages Sitdown Demonstration For Food In Dime Store

By Albert L. Rozier, Jr.

Four freshman students of this institution started Monday afternoon what they termed a "passive demand for service" at the lunch counter of a downtown five and dime store.

According to Ezell Blair, leader of the group, he and three other students - Franklin McCain David Richmond, and Joseph McNeil - went into the store at approximately 4:30 p.m. on Monday, purchased small articles from a counter near the lunch bar and took seats at the lunch counter.

Following is a dialogue of the initial conversation

between Blair and the waitress behind the lunch counter:

Blair: "I'd like a cup of coffee, please."

Waitress: "I'm sorry. We don't serve colored here."

Blair: "I beg to disagree with you. You just finished serving me at a counter only two feet from here."

Waitress: "Negroes eat on the other end."

Blair: "What do you mean? This is a public place, isn't it? If it isn't, then why don't you sell membership cards? If you do that, then I'll understand that this is a private concern."

Waitress: "Well you won't get any service here!"

After this conversation, said Blair the waitress left them and went to the other end of the counter.

Immediately following this conversation, however, he stated that a Negro girl, a helper on the counter, confronted them, saying, "You are stupid, ignorant! You're dumb! That's why we can't get anywhere today. You know you are supposed to eat at the other end."

After this brief encounter, the students said they were completely ignored. When they asked questions, they were not answered.

"I told the waitress we'd sit

there until we were served," said McNeil. She said nothing. Policemen came in and stared at us and walked up and down the aisle, but said nothing to us. We figured it was an effort on their part to frighten us away, but we stayed until 5:30, when the store closed," he continued.

The group said they tried to talk to the manager of the lunch counter and when they were refused audience, asked to speak with the manager of the store, but were denied this, too. They said that during the entire time they have been there, they have not so much as seen the manager.

The next morning, Tuesday, February 3, a group of approximately twenty students - including the freshman initiators of the demonstration - returned and took seats at the counter.

They entered the store at 10:30 a.m. and remained throughout the day. They were not served, the waitress stating that "it's a store regulation - a custom."

Blair stated that the demonstration was originally planned for two or three weeks; but that now, "We are preparing to continue to sit for as long as is necessary - until we're served."

Reprinted From February 1, 1960.

Chisholm Will Speak At Black History Celebration

"Civil Rights, Past, Present and Future" will be the theme of a Black History Month observance to be sponsored by the F. D. Bluford Library at A&T State University in February.

Highlights of the observance will be an address by Congresswoman Shirley

Anderson To Meet With A&T Officials

Dr. Philip W. Anderson, who shared the 1977 Nobel Prize in physics, will be a guest of the A&T School of Engineering on Wednesday, Feb. 25.

Anderson is expected to meet informally with administrators, teachers and students and present a public talk in the evening in Merrick Hall, in conjunction with the university's observance of National Engineers Week.

Anderson shared the Nobel Prize from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences with John H. Van Vleck of Harvard University and Sir Nevill Mott of Cambridge University in England.

Anderson's visit to A&T is being sponsored by the Bell Labs of Murray Hill, New Jersey. The three prize winners are theoreticians within the field of solo solid-state physics, the branch of physics which lies behind current technical developments, particularly in electronics.

Anderson's work has resulted in a better understanding of why certain atoms such as iron are magnetic when dissolved in non-

magnetic host metals and why other atoms that might be ex-

pected to be magnetic are not.

Anderson joined Bell Labs

technical staff in 1949, and worked in the field of

theoretical physics, concentrating mainly on studies of

solid-state materials. He is a fellow of the American

Physical Society and a member of the Physical Socie-

ty of Japan, Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Chi. He received

the Oliver E. Buckley prize of the Academy of Sciences at

Gottingen in 1975 and the Dannie Heineman Prize of the

Academy of Sciences at Gottingen in 1975.

Chisholm of New York, a special film series and several

panel discussions.

The initial event will be a

discussion of "The Civil

Rights Movement,

1960-1970," on Sunday, Feb.

8, at 7 p.m. in the Gibbs Hall.

Presenters will be Dr. Frenise

Logan, professor of history at

A&T, and Cleveland Sellars,

former nationally prominent

civil rights leader.

Congresswoman Chisholm

will speak on "Civil Rights in

the 80's on Sunday, Feb. 15, at 8 p.m. in the Harrison Auditorium.

A panel discussion on

Sunday, Feb. 22, at 7 p.m. in

Gibbs Hall will be held on

"Civil Rights in 1980 and

Beyond: The Greensboro

Perspective."

Participants on the panel

will be Logan, who will serve

as moderator; Rabbi Arnold

Task, of Temple Emmanuel;

Dr. James Johnson, chairman

of the Greensboro Human

Relations Commission; the

Rev. George M. Kloster,

pastor of St. Pius Tenth

Church; the Rev. Otis

Hairston, pastor of Shiloh

Baptist Church; Mrs. Eula

Hudgens, member of A&T

library staff; and Bobby

are open to the public.

Hopkins, an officer of the

A&T Student Government

Association.

The special films will be

shown on Feb. 17-20 and Feb.

23-27, at times to be

announced later. All programs

are open to the public.



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**CAMPUS INTERVIEWS
FEBRUARY 10**

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A Reporter's Meeting will be held at the A&T Register House, on Monday, February 2, at 7 p.m. All persons interested in joining the staff are urged to attend.

Tutoring sessions for the National Teacher Exam (NTE) and the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) will be conducted on Mondays from 5-6 p.m. in Crosby Hall Room 201 by Prof. Robert Levine of the English Dept.

Two and Three Year Army ROTC Scholarship applications are now being accepted. Interested students should contact Captain McMillian, Room 106 Campbell Hall for more information. Scholarships provide for payment of tuition, books, and lab fees, plus \$100 per month subsistence.

Alpha Chi meetings will be held every 1st and 3rd Monday of each month beginning February 2, 1981, at 5:00 p.m. in Room 100 of the Student Union. Please attend all meetings. They are of great importance to all seniors.

The Ayantee Yearbook would like to announce that class pictures may be picked up at yearbook office. Late orders will be accepted until Friday, at 5:00 p.m.

The Attorney General's office will be filling vacant staff positions. All interested persons are asked to come to Room 217, Memorial Student Union on Thursday, February 5th at 6:30 p.m. There will be a staff meeting immediately following.

Attention Senior!!! Orders for graduation announcements and personal cards must be in the Book Store by Feb. 13. Orders must be paid for when picked up after April 9.

Journal Entry

By Tony Moore

Atlantic Records has signed Eddie Kendricks to a long term, exclusive worldwide recording contract. His first Atlantic label recording was released this month.

The album was recorded at the Music Place in Birmingham, Alabama.

It is said that Kendricks has been a major force in popular music for two decades. He was a founding member and lead singer with Motown's

Temptations. His trademark tenor voice was featured on a number of recordings including "The Way You Do The Things You Do," "My Girl," "I Know I'm Losing You," "Ain't Too Proud To Beg," "You're

My Everything," "I Wish It Would Rain," "Can't Get Next To You," "Cloud Nine," "Get Ready," "Psychedelic Shack," "Just My Imagination," and "I'm Gonna Make You Love Me," and "I'll Try Something New" with Diana Ross and the Supremes.

In 1971, after eleven years, Kendricks left the Temptations and embarked on a solo career marked by such offerings as "Keep On Truckin'," "Boogie Down," "Saggitarius," "He's A Friend," "Happy," "Ain't No Smoke Without Fire," and others. To date he has recorded a dozen solo albums.

Those "All American Girls," Kim, Kathy, Debbie and Joni Sledge, have another offering on the Cotillion label: the pre-released single, "All American Girls" from the later released album, *All American Girls*.

The song, "All American Girls," was written jointly by Narada Michael Walden, Lisa Walden, Allee Willis and Joni Sledge.

Walden handled production of the single and the album (in his first work with Sister Sledge) for Perfection Light Productions, in association with Sister Sledge for Sledge Power Productions, Inc.

Sister Sledge achieved Record Industry Association of America (RIAA) platinum success in 1979 with the *We Are Family* album whose RIAA gold track has become a contemporary classic.

In less than two years, Kleer returns to the R&B/pop music scene with its third Atlantic Records offering, *License To Dream*.

License was produced by Dennis King and Kleer, with all of the album's eight songs written by members of the group.

The album incorporates R&B, jazz, pop and rock influences on numbers ranging from dance music to lyrical ballads.



In 1894 William Du Bois became the first Black to be awarded a Ph. D. by Harvard.

Roseboro's Art Work On Exhibit

By Mary L. Moore

Paul Roseboro, a junior arts and design major from Winston-Salem, will be one of two A&T students to have their works on exhibit at UNC-G.

Roseboro's works depict the life of the Black Society which pertains to Black artists and their works. His works will be on exhibit until February 11, 1981, in the Elliott Center on the UNC-G campus, as part of its national Black History month celebration.

Roseboro has been drawing since the age of three. His motivation stemmed from looking at pictures and doing identicals. Being self-educated artwise, Roseboro is determined to perfect his artistic talents. He has been selling portraits since the ninth grade, but has cut back commissions this semester. He will be promoting himself and seeking the essential recognition that all artists should strive for.

In September 1979, he entered an art contest with three mediums: oil paintings, pencil drawing and pastel drawing. He entered the oil painting as amateur and the pencil drawing as a professional, but all three won first place awards. He was (See Mother, Page 6)

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A Long Way To Go

On February 1, 1960 four Black students changed the course of Blacks and history. Thus, the civil rights movement grew strong and the national sit-in movements began.

A pertinent part of that movement was on the campus of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. This campus was an axis on which many activities, planning and support were spun. The adversaries of the civil rights movement today watch developments of any protests or mass participation for the cause of total freedom and civil rights.

This should tell all Black students that they possess the qualities of those brave Aggies from the past.

Twenty-one years later, we still are one in the struggle. There are different reasons; our horizons

have expanded, but we have not yet achieved the full accommodations of the 80's.

With the new Reagan administration, the people will have to plan the next four years and not be taken

in by the wise talk of a new idea; between the lines is usually where plots of underhanded administration

grow. The past governments have shown corruption, economic unrest and international weakness. This

new government is supposed to "clean up"; but the majority of the people who suffer are the poor and

the minorities, one and the same.

The struggle is not over; the highway has been laid; our journey has just begun.

Leading editorials are written by the editor of The A&T Register. Such editorials will not necessarily carry a byline and will not necessarily reflect the opinion of the University or the entire staff. Staff members are free to write dissenting opinions.

The A&T Register

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Sit In Movement Begins

By Albert L. Rozier, Jr.

Reprinted From February 1, 1960.

Several students here have engaged in what they term a passive demonstration protesting the failure of the F.W. Woolworth dime store downtown to offer service to Negroes at the luncheon counter.

It has been stated by Woolworth's front office in New York that they do not control local policy on matters of any kind. They state that the local store's policy is to "abide by local custom" in regard to matters involving the races.

In view of the fact that the heads of the chain indicate they will go along with any change in such policy, dictated by a corresponding change in local custom, then it would seem that it is left with the local manager here to come to some conclusion, or at least confer with these students in an effort to liquidate the problem.

There has been local editorial comment to the effect that the "sit down" demand for service, which went unheeded, served the cause of race

relations badly." This is obviously a pessimistic stand intended to cast a shadow of "intimidation" on the movement.

The group has stated they they hold no resentment toward the company, but "hopes for a mutual understanding of the gross inequality and discrimination placed by one American upon another American who happens, by the Will of God, to be of another color."

Also, in evidence to the fact that the students are allegedly within their rights to seek fair treatment is the support they are beginning to receive from students of local white institutions. It must be realized by our elders, both white and colored, that it is the students of today-both white and colored-who will occupy the positions they now hold.

Since this is inevitable, then these youth should have something to say now about the country-the world that will be in their hands in the very near future.

Mass Media Four

By Trudy Johnson

Now is the time for mass communications to start planning for the Fourth Annual Mass Media Conference, March 27-28.

The theme "Minority Training, Hiring, Retention and Promotion in the Media: Challenges for the 1980's," represents the need for student journalists to begin preparing for journalistic professionalism.

With the approximately 150 mass communications students of the English and Speech Departments, the ones who attended the first meeting concerning the upcoming event hope that more of you show up for the scheduled February 5th meeting. Because the student participants of last year's conference could only attend one

panel/workshop, they did not have the opportunity to get a bit of information of all of the six panelists.

This year's panels are scheduled at different times so any one interested can listen to all guest speakers if they so desire.

Panels are "Training, Hiring, Retention and Promotion of Minorities" and "The Internship Experience: Fantasy Versus Reality."

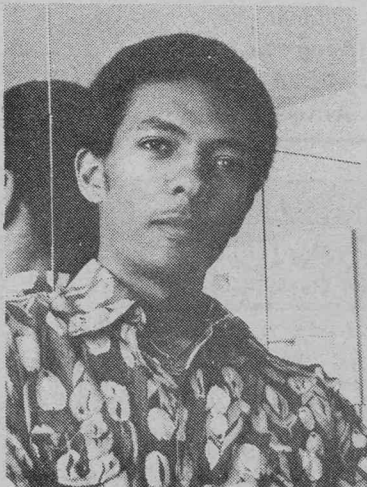
We need all of our mass communications students for panel, hospitality, registration, program, and publicity committees.

This is the "Career Day" event for us, so let's take advantage of it. What we missed on "Career Day" we can make up for it now!

EUC To Exhibit Van Hinnant's Art Work At Festival

By Tony Moore

Comic book art so intrigued Van Hinnant while he was in grade school, that he vowed he would draw as well as those examples, if not better. The result of that intrigue will be exhibited, along with four other artists' work, in the gallery of the Elliott University Center on the University of North Carolina at Greensboro campus February 1-7.



Van Hinnant

The art exhibit is presented as a part of the 12th Annual Black Arts Festival celebrated

WNAA Salutes Organizations February 23rd

By James Lewis

A special edition of "On The Yard" will be airing a Founders Week tribute on February 23. WNAA, in its observance of Founders week will salute student organizations and their programs and objectives.

The program, which is two hours, will take a look at Aggie Organizations, their past, present and future objectives.

The program will also look at the organizations' present status as well as their involvement within the campus.

Any Organization interested in being a part of this program should contact Jim Lewis at WNAA, located in Suite 200, Price Hall or call 379-7934.



The first Black to win a Pulitzer prize for poetry was Gwendolyn Brooks in 1950.

by the Neo Black Society of UNC-G.

According to NBS member, Lisa Faison, "the Black Arts Festival is a time set aside to expose the Greensboro Community and UNC-G students to the total Black cultural experience through art, music, drama, dance and outstanding Black celebrities."

Hinnant's participation extends beyond his work being exhibited: he is the Artist in Residence (February 2-6) at the Elliott University Center. A position the Greensboro

native probably never envisioned at fifteen when he attempted his "first real abstract paintings." But those first efforts "were somehow misplaced," said Hinnant and he thereafter rejected art study. Drafting classes in remaining high school years claimed his attention. He said that "the influence of those drafting studies exists in the majority of my works today."

In 1971 he entered A&T after painstakingly opting to study Art Design rather than Architectural Engineering.

Hinnant interrupted his studies by becoming

adraftsman for four years at Gilbarco, Inc. in Greensboro. Creative canvas production was slow during this time. He returned to A&T in 1978 to complete his studies.

1979 was the year of production increase. His work was exhibited in several around-the-state and local showings including exhibitions at the Elm Street Gallery and the Garden Studio Art Gallery, both in Greensboro. 1980 was also a year of showings and exhibitions.

As one of five Black artists being featured at the Black Arts Festival art exhibit,

Hinnant is a member of the North Carolina Cultural Arts Coalition and said that he looks "forward to lots of activity in 1981." The other artists participating in the exhibit are Gilbert L. Hines Jr., a graduate in commercial art from North Carolina Central University in Durham, and is currently working towards a degree in Communications from UNC-G; Ernest Ivey, a UNC-G art major; Cynthia Dee Lloyd, a UNC-G sophomore seeking a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree; and Paul Roseboro, a junior Art Design major at A&T.

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Students What Are Your Rights?

Editor-Of-The-Register:

This letter is not written with the intent to cause any massive upheavels among the student body. It is rather an attempt for me to carry out one of my duties as Attorney General of the S.G.A. That duty in specific is to inform the students of their rights and privileges as members of this university community.

All full-time undergraduate students are automatically members of the Student Government Association and are ipso facto governed by its constitution.

It is a very sad sight to see fellow colleagues appear before the University Judicial Tribunal and watch him/her practically throw themselves out of school because of lack of knowledge of their student rights.

Mother Encourages Artist

(Continued From Page 3)

pleased that the people enjoyed his work. He has also received encouragement from his mother and the A&T Art Department. He takes criticism in its stride by not allowing it to break his confidence.

His art depicts realism which stresses fidelity to nature or to real life and surrealism which means the ideals or principles of producing fantastic or incongruous imagery in art. His main reasons for getting into the exhibit at UNC-G are that their program is much bigger and their Art Department is more advanced. Even though this is his first year doing this kind of exhibit, he seeks to prove that he is as good if not better than artists at UNC-G.

Roseboro gives out helpful thoughts to the interested public-inspiring, motivating, and stimulating their minds. His comments are "College is here for you to make something of yourself. It is up to you to develop your individual worth."

Roseboro's mentor is Leonardo Da Vinci, famous for the portraits "Mona Lisa" and "The Last Supper". Roseboro is looking forward to growing and accepting the many challenges in his path. He feels that he will "conquer art or it'll conquer him."

"Individual effort makes the Art Department special," he said. "It will grow and we'll grow together."

In my opinion as well as many others who are in position to see the situation objectively and realistically, there is a serious problem on this campus. The dissemination of materials concerning student life and specifically 'Student Government' is at a (to say the least) critical low point. It

should be no great surprise to our administrators to find chaotic eruptions in simple activities such as co-ed visitation. The student body is genuinely confused about matters concerning the rules and regulations of this campus. And understandably

so, in many cases since they have never received that which every other state supported university student receives (a student handbook). I know that A&T has always been different in many aspects, but really how far should we take it?

The S.G.A. has met with the Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs on several occasions

to discuss the issuance of student handbooks amongst the student body, but unfortunately we have seen nothing but unkept promises (as usual). I understand that Dr. Marshall is 'still' working on the problem. Hopefully,

he will find some way to meet this very important need of the student body.

Perhaps all of the newly implemented innovations in our administration can be attributed to the delay, but Dr. Cleon Thompson seems to have adjusted rather well in his new environment and I'm sure that by now we all can resume business as usual. Ironically, both Dr. Dowdy (former chancellor) and Dr. Thompson (acting chancellor) have expressed the same kind of concern as the S.G.A. in reference to the handbooks. In my observations of Dr. Thompson, I've found his

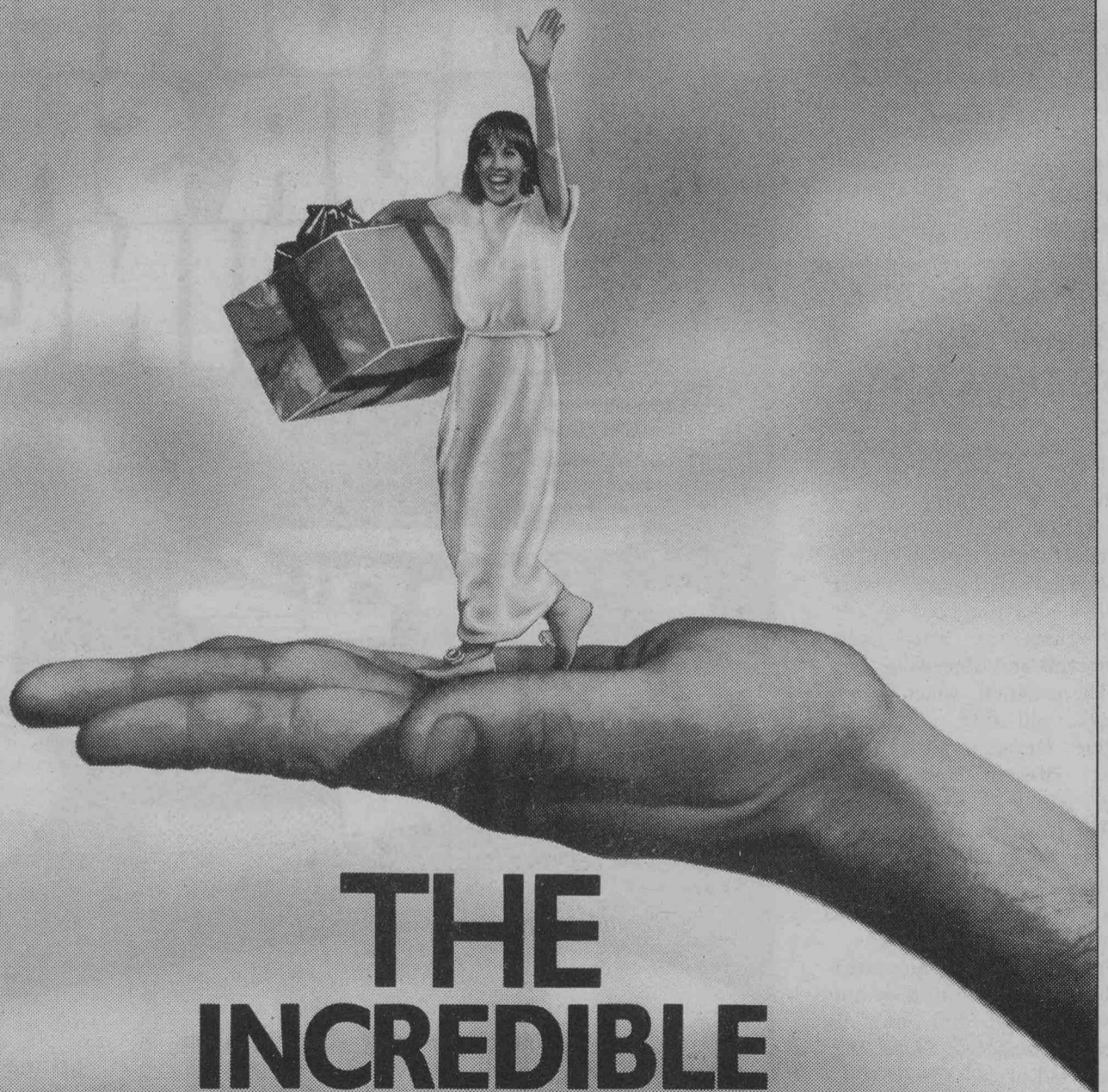
actions to be consistent with his words; therefore, I have no choice but to think that this problem will be resolved in some manner. Yes, it seems that this time around we might actually get something done sooner than too much later.

In the meantime, you may contact either the Commissioners of Student Rights in my office, a member of the Student Affairs Division of N.C. A&T, or me for more information concerning your rights as a student.

Yours In Justice
Michael Anthony Eure
Attorney General - S.G.A.

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SPORTS REPORT

By Raymond Moody

While the N.C. A&T Aggie basketball team was losing to MEAC opponent Bethune-Cookman Monday night, I couldn't help but notice the lack of enthusiasm shown by the Corbett Sports Center

crowd. Here this was supposedly a home game for the Aggies; but, if one were a stranger Monday night and didn't know which team was the home

team, it would have been difficult to figure out which team was the Aggie team.

The crowd simply has to make more noise in Corbett Sports Center.

Sure, there were occasional outbursts of "Let's Go, Aggies; Aggies, Let's go," but it was too infrequent and less observed by the visitors from

Florida. The Aggie fans must intimidate visiting teams in Corbett Sports Center because the Aggies suffer through some rough treatment when they're on the road.

For an example, I'll comment on the Aggies' game against UNC-Wilmington a while back in Wilmington. The Seahawks have a relatively small, but loud and intimidating pep club. The club had

three males: one wearing a mask, one with his face colored green and white (Seahawk colors), and one dressed as a Seahawk who was attempting to do an imitation of the San Diego Chicken.

These three males were running around the sidelines, occasionally leading cheers for the Pep Club. This lasted the majority of the night, not the usual five minutes the Aggie crowd cheers in A&T's gym.

The Seahawk pep club jumped on James "Chicken" Horace unmercifully. Whenever Horace made a mistake or whenever his man scored, the

Seahawk pep club let everyone in the gymnasium know about it. The crowd would shout Horace, Horace, or "Get in the game, Horace."

I think they upset Horace a little. He suffered through a dismal shooting performance as well as some uncharacteristic turnovers. Coach Don Corbett had to sit him down so he'd calm down. Man, I'm sure glad the Seahawk Pep Club didn't know Horace's nickname was "Chicken."

Horace wasn't the only Aggie that was frustrated by the partisan Seahawk crowd that night. Coach Corbett felt the Pep Club's wrath a little. The crowd would yell, "Sit down Corbett," or "Corbett, Corbett." The Aggie coach did an excellent job of hiding his frustration, but I noticed a stare from Coach Corbett to the crowd one time and I could almost read the coach's thoughts. Believe me, they weren't pleasant.

Aggie crowds should make it a nightmare for visiting teams in Corbett Sports Center. Don't sit back and be cool. Make some noise and cheer the Aggies on to victory.

Aggies Lose To Bethune-Cookman

By Raymond Moody

It was almost taken for granted that the N.C. A&T Aggie basketball team had returned to its winning ways after Saturday's 80-67 win over MEAC opponent South Carolina State. But the Aggies came back Monday night with a sluggish performance against Bethune-Cookman and lost 46-44 in overtime to their visiting MEAC foe.

"We shot the ball well against S.C. State Saturday, but against Bethune-Cookman we shot the ball as badly as we've ever shot," stated Aggie Coach Don Corbett.

The loss Monday night didn't hurt the Aggies in the conference because the Bethune team was filling a void in the schedule left by Johnson C. Smith University.

It seems as though senior Harold Royster has emerged

from his shooting slump. The smooth 6-8 forward connected on 11 of 15 shots and 25 points and grabbed 24 rebounds during the two games.

But even Royster's improved play didn't help in the overtime loss to the Wildcats. A&T failed to execute on its foul shots late in the game.

"The foul shots hurt us; but, if we'd played well, we still would have won," Corbett said. "We've got to be able to adjust to different styles. Bethune-Cookman did a good job in changing the tempo of the game. We didn't adapt to the tempo change."

Midway in the second half, James Anderson, Joe Binion, and Harold Royster failed to connect from the charity stripe. But the Aggies' fatal miss came with only 20 seconds on the clock and the

score tied in overtime when A&T freshman Brian Booker was fouled. The Aggie freshman missed the front end of his one-and-one and the Wildcats went in for their tie-breaking points with five seconds on the clock.

Bethune-Cookman played a slow paced game and seemed satisfied at working the ball several minutes before taking a shot. The Aggies became impatient; and, while Bethune-Cookman connected on its shots, the Aggies hurriedly missed and they soon found themselves down 36-27.

But A&T's Horace wasn't about to let the Wildcat pull away. The slim forward scored on three long jumpers and, with three minutes to play, the game was tied at 44. Bethune-Cookman played for the last shot but missed.



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Aggies Will Host MEAC Defending Champs Tonight

By Wade Nash

When North Carolina A&T hosts Howard University in the Corbett Sports Center Friday, area fans will have the opportunity to witness the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference's top front court players.

The Aggies' 6-8 Harold Royster, along with Howard's 6-8 Larry Spriggs and 6-9 James Ratiff are the class of the league's forwards, and the intensity of play is expected to be high as the battle for top position in the conference tightens.

Royster, a three-time All-MEAC selection and a member of two A&T teams which captured regular season and tournament championships, has averaged over 15 points and seven rebounds per game throughout his career.

Although his scoring average has slipped to 11 points a game this season, he feels that his overall play has improved, especially rebounding and shot blocking.

"I have never been a big scorer so having a high point per game average hasn't really concerned me," said Royster, a product of Gorton High School in Yonkers, New York.

"Last season I averaged about 17 points a game, but we didn't play well as a team and, consequently, got eliminated early in the MEAC regular season and tournament championship races. So far this year we have a balanced attack with four-to-five men in double figures almost every night and we have a winning record," Royster stated.

"Personally, I try to do little things that will help in our team concept. I think I am rebounding better than ever before and my timing on blocking shots or just forcing someone to alter his shots has greatly improved."

In the Aggies' last two outings, Royster grabbed 27 rebounds and scored 28 points. Against Ratiff and Spriggs, he will be facing what many believe to be the best forward combination in college basketball.

Ratiff, last season's "Player of the Year" in the MEAC, and recently cited as the league's "Player of the Year" for his 25.3 point and 6.3 rebound average over the past three games, and Spriggs, the M.V.P. in the last two MEAC tournaments, have led the Bison to a 3-1 conference record and overall record of 9-6.

"Ratiff and Spriggs are both good players," Royster said. "Ratiff shoots well, jumps well, and is dangerous

on the break."

"Spriggs is probably their best all-round player. He's the kind of player that doesn't have to score a lot of points to be effective."

"He's very strong and, with the exception of Larry Bird, I would say he's the best forward I've played against in college."

The Aggies are 2-3 in MEAC play and 8-6 overall. After a fast early season start, the team has slumped in recent

outings, losing four of its last five games.

Most of those contests were on the road and, with 12 games remaining, 10 in Corbett Sports Center, Royster is hoping that the Aggies can regain the momentum they enjoyed before the Christmas break.

"We all know what is at stake in the MEAC with the tournament winner getting the opportunity to play in the NCAA National

Championship," said Royster, the only senior on the A&T team.

"We also know that, if we are going to continue our season, we have to start playing now. We are 2-3 in the league and have a chance to finish at the top since there are three teams with one loss and all of those teams have to come here for one game.

"We have the talent to win, and it's not like we've been getting blown out; all of those

games were close."

The Aggies won the first meeting between the teams, 85-72, and then lost to Howard in triple overtime in Washington, 64-62.

"We are disappointed about our performance earlier this week against Bethune-

Cookman, but this is a conference game and it counts.

"We'll be ready."

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