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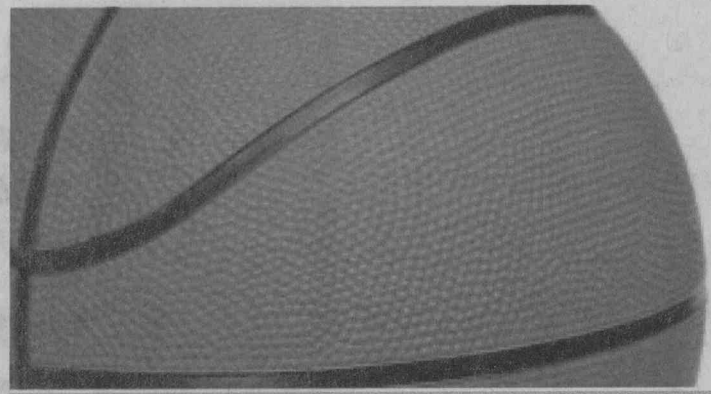
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AGGIES GET TRAMPLED BY THUNDERING HERD

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THE A&T REGISTER

FREE | VOLUME LXXXIII, NO. 13

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NOVEMBER 18, 2009 | WEDNESDAY

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THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA A&T

CAMPUS NOTEBOOK

Swimming through financial aid

CHELSEA KING
Register Reporter

Your Issues, Your Campus, Speak your Mind: A & T Financial Aid Forum was held on Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in Exhibit Hall.

This gave students and the financial aid staff the opportunity to finally voice their issues and opinions towards the issues that they are faced with in the Dowdy Building.

Although this was the time for many students to voice their opinions many did not show up. In a very cold Exhibit Hall, students filled around 50 of the 200 seat set aside for them to participate in the program.

Nonetheless, the financial aid staff expressed that it was very excited to see the students who were there and greeted them with a friendly handshake.

The program began promptly and was moderated by Dexter Mullins, the Editor in Chief of The A & T Register, who opened the floor for students and the financial aid to voice their opinion.

Mullins guided the forum through a series of questions directed first to the students, then asked students to speak directly to administration. He rapped the program up by giving the administration a chance to respond, and gave the microphone to Student Government Association President Syene Jasmin.

"It was great to see the few students that did come out, but I would have really liked to see more students come to speak about the many challenges we all face as students with finan-

cial aid," Mullins said. "I tried to even give some of my own personal experiences just so that students would feel more comfortable with actually speaking up and expressing the things that were going on. Overall I would say that the program was great for what it was."

Many students who had questions seemed to exhibit the same problem: communication. As Augustine Joseph, a senator for the College of Arts and Sciences pointed out, there could be many other things that people could do in financial aid to improve this situation.

"When I worked in Dean [Dr. Michael] Plater in the College of Arts and Sciences, we would first call someone if we needed to reach them, e-mail them, and then call them again to make sure that all those previous methods had been successful," Joseph said. "I think sometimes overcommunication is the best way to communicate with people."

The Director of Financial Aid, Mrs. Sherri Avent, along with Dr. Yvette Underdue-Murph, the Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management, and Mr. Robert Pompey, the Vice Chancellor of Business and Finance, address most all of the students questions.

SGA Chief of Staff Gary Brown suggested that a customer service survey be put into place, and it was discovered that this was already in the works.

"We have actually been thinking of doing something along those lines," Underdue-Murph said. "I along with my colleagues would all love to



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MCT CAMPUS

► See FINANCIAL AID on Page 2

No money, more problems for Miss A&T

Senate denies Opara's proposal for a 'For Sisters Only' program that would have included poetry and Raheem DeV Vaughn

DEXTER MULLINS & CHELSEA KING
The A&T Register

Despite the debilitating weather, the Student Government Association Senate met for the last time for its last scheduled session this semester on Nov. 11 in Marteen Hall Auditorium, beginning promptly at 7:06 p.m. with the official call to order.

After their normal routine of roll call, reading of the meetings and opening the floor for the student body, they jumped right into the discussion over the funding for a Women's Symposium for the student body.

It was a finance bill presented by Ngozi Opara, Miss A & T, to receive an additional \$6,000 to \$10,000 to fund the program "For Sisters Only." Opara initially asked for \$20,000 from the Student Government Association budget for the same program, but the Finance Committee reduced the amount to \$10,000 stating in its annual

budget reevaluation:

"In believing that SUAB produces most social activities on campus, they should be utilized in producing such a program that would involve the obtaining of a performer, however \$10,000 has been left for the weekend event of "Sisters Only."

The bill initially stated that the "for sisters only" program was to include a performance Raheem Devaughn, R&B recording artist that Friday night, and Keisha Spivey, Life Coach Extraordinaire, was to speak on that Saturday. It was not clear, however, as to why these two individuals were singled out for the conference or if students specifically wanted them to come.

Constitutionally, in order for Miss A&T to receive the money that she desires for this event, the Finance Committee has to approve it first so that it can then be presented to the full Senate. However, the bill fell through because there were multiple questions



Opara

DeVaughn is not," said Na-im Butler, the chair of the Finance Committee.

Although there was still some confusion left in the air, the meeting preceded with the rest of the agenda items. Miss A & T was still in opposition about the Finance Committee's decision.

"It seems as if they have already created this mindset and they are not trying to change anything," said Opara.

After the meeting Opara discussed her concerns, along with Senator Atilah Claiborne, to the chair of the Finance Committee about their decision.

that fueled their concerns for this bill.

"The bill presented by Miss A&T has been disapproved because we had a few questions about it, like why the poetry event is free and the concert that includes Raheem

"The Finance Committee did not make this decision alone, since we work for the students we went around and talked to them and many said they would not attend this event," Butler said.

The Finance Committee has set meetings for each month where they review and discuss the budget. Moreover, when they held their Finance Committee meeting prior to the Nov. 11 senate meeting Opara and Claiborne both said, "we were there and ready to present the bill but nothing happened."

"No one has ever come to submit anything, you have to submit it at the first trial and then the second official one," said Mason Jones, the treasurer of the Student Government Association.

Valerie Dudley, the Vice President of Internal Affairs, is constitutionally obligated to preside over the senate. Dudley clarified the situation after both parties had their say.

"I believe that it is too late to go back because the decision has already been

made, but what Miss A&T can do is create a petition and get a percentage of students to sign it and present it at a Senate meeting."

Section 1, Article 9 states the senate is the primary law making body so any bill has to be created within the Senate. Also Section 19, Article 9 states that the introduction of the bill has to be typed and duplicated. One must go to the speaker and one given to the clerk.

The bill must go through this process, which is organized and set up for the bill to be presented to the senate body, clerk, and speaker so it can accurately pass through, but Opara's bill did not follow this process.

"The bottom line was there was miscommunication between the Finance Committee and Miss A & T," said Dudley.

After Dudley clarified the situation, Opara accepted the decision of the senate, stating that she would just have the women's conference instead.

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theYARD
ALD HOSTS
OBAMA PANEL

Alpha Lambda Delta National Freshman Honor Society hosted an open panel discussion on President Barack Obama's 'Dreams.'

PAGE 3

theWORD
HOLDING TITLES
FOR TITLES SAKE

Getting involved in your school and community is one thing. But merely using those titles to fill a hole on your resume is another.

PAGE 6

theSCORE
VOLLEYBALL'S
SEASON ENDS

The volleyball team's season came to an end in the MEAC Tournament on Monday night against the Eagles of North Carolina Central.

PAGE 7

theSCENE
JAZZ ENSEMBLE
HONORS 'DUKE'

The Department of Visual and Performing Arts and the University Jazz Ensemble will be honoring Duke Ellington on Thursday 7 p.m.

PAGE 8

WEATHER
WEDNESDAY
High: 58°
Low: 51°

THURSDAY: Showers | High 64°
FRIDAY: Sunny | High 66°

inFOCUS



PHOTO BY MICHAELA EDWARDS - THE A&T REGISTER

THE MACHINE IS FUELED UP The Blue and Gold Marching Machine will participate in the Battle of the Bowl against South Carolina State's Band on Friday, November 20.

theBLOTTER

For a reason unknown to us, the University Police Department has changed the content of the campus police blotter. The result of that change is what you see below. We are currently investigating the cause of this change and will keep you posted.

-The A&T Register

11/6 Charles Drew Dr.-Vehicle Accident

11/6 Vanstory Hall-Underage Drinking

11/7 Luther St PVA-Vehicle Accident

11/9 UNC-Greensboro-Disorderly Conduct

11/9 Harrison Auditorium-Consuming Alcohol

11/9 Vanstory Hall-Fraud

11/10 Student Union & Barbee Hall-Larceny

11/10 Laurel Parking Lot-

Vehicle Parking

11/11 Pride Hall PVA- Hit & Run Vehicle Accident

11/12 E. Market St-Vehicle Accident

11/12 Aggie Suites-Weapons Violation

11/12 Vanstory Hall-Alcohol Violation

11/13 McNair Hall-Larceny

11/13 Smith Hall-Fraud

11/13 Barbee Hall-Larceny

11/13 Cooper Hall-Drug Violation

11/14 Aggie Terrace- B&E Larceny

11/15 Dudley St-DWI

11/15 Barbee Hall-Vehicle Accident



getting it RIGHT

In last weeks issue of The A&T Register, we ran a story on the front page about President Barack Obama speaking at Fort Hood. The headline, which should have read "Obama to serve as 'counselor in chief' at Fort Hood" read "Obama to serve as 'counselor in chief' at Fort Hood." We regret the error.

SGA sponsors financial aid forum to address students various concerns

FINANCIAL AID From page 1

work with you [students] to help improve the situations in financial aid."

Avent also spoke to the importance of turning in FAFSA forms as early as possible.

"In just one week in the financial aid office in June, we will receive over 15,000 pieces of paper. Paper," Avent said. "We have acquired a converter to help digitize these forms, but we still have

to process each of these documents. If students would turn their forms in early or on time, they would be able to receive more of the limited funds we have available. There were some students who had no loans this year."

Jasmin closed the program out, calling it historic.

"You go and tell all your friends that didn't come that this program took place tonight, and they missed out." He said. "But remember this is the first step.

THE FAFSA BECOMES AVAILABLE JANUARY 1

THE A&T REGISTER IS TAKING A BREAK FOR THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY. WILL RESUME PUBLISHING THE FIRST WEEK IN DECEMBER. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!! - THE A&T REGISTER

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events

WEDNESDAY

18

Ayantee Yearbook Pictures
Memorial Student Union
9 a.m.

McNair New Scholars
Memorial Student Union
Stallings Ballroom
4 p.m.

Couture Word Semester
Memorial Student Union
Stallings Ballroom
7 p.m.

A.W.E. Fully Body Meeting
Memorial Student Union
Room 209
7 p.m.

Ladies of Excellence Business Seminar
Memorial Student Union 240
7:30 p.m.

I.A.M.M. Jazz Cafe
Memorial Student Union
Exhibit Hall
8 p.m.

THURSDAY

19

School of Education Dedication Ceremony
New School of Education
10 a.m.

Etiquette Dinner
Memorial Student Union
Exhibit Hall
6 p.m.

Purpose Driven vs. Sex Driven
General Classroom Building
Room A218 Auditorium
6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

20

Multicultural Thanksgiving
Memorial Student Union
5 p.m.

SATURDAY

21

Football vs. S.C. State
Orangeburg, S.C.
1:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

22

Academic Empowerment
Memorial Student Union
7 p.m.

MONDAY

23

REAL Entrepreneurship
Webb Hall 217
6 p.m.

TUESDAY

24

Omega Psi Phi Program
Hodgin Hall 101
7 p.m.

M.A.L.E.S. Program
Memorial Student Union 214
8 p.m.

THE A&T REGISTER

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CAMPUS NOTEBOOK

Alpha Lambda Delta hosts open discussion on President Obama's book

JAMIA HARRISON
Contributor

Students and faculty eagerly waited outside the doors of the General Classroom Building Auditorium Nov. 11. The College of Arts and Sciences Colloquium Series and Alpha Lambda Delta National Freshman Honor Society, presented an open discussion on President Barack Obama's book entitled "Dreams From My Father."

Students and faculty filled the seats of the auditorium as they waited for the book discussion to begin. Alpha Lambda Delta featured four panelists to give their personal insight of the book. Serving as panelists were Dr. Vanessa Cunningham-Engram from the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Professor Bryon Turman from the Department of English, Joel Williamson (ALD President 2009-10), and Allahquan L. Tate (Freshman Class President 2009-10). The panelists were asked several questions regarding the book and how they felt about the difference President Barack Obama is making so far. The moderator, sophomore business supply chain management major Chukwuemeka Anazia, posed very thought provoking questions.

Anazia asked the panel what they thought about the so called "Obama Effect" which has many different definitions but the one used by Anazia said, "Now that a black man has made it to pres-

idency, that means there are no more excuses for black men." Professor Turman said, "I suggest you walk across Market Street and take a look at where black men are. One of the things the university system does a great job of is creating a cocoon around us; our lives on campus are different from the lives of people across Market Street." Truman also feels that his jury is still out on whether there will be an "Obama Effect."

The book highlights some of the struggles and accomplishments of President Obama since childhood; from growing up and being teased as a young boy to winning the 2008 Presidential Election.

"I think if anything this book is motivation for kids to really see that they are not the only ones going through their struggling journeys, you can still set yourself up in the position to mold yourself for success," said Joel Williamson, a sophomore business management major with a concentration in entrepreneurship. Williamson said the book discussion was a great opportunity for students to not only see how President Obama overcame obstacles but to get a first hand insight of what they can gain by reading the book.

"All of us will not be president regardless of what nationality you are, you have to make your own path in life but also recognize that someone having a similar struggle has overcome it and you can too," said Dr. Cunningham-Engram.

Career fair held on campus

NISHA STREETER
Register Reporter

The JOMC EXPO, a career fair for journalism and mass communication majors, gave students the opportunity to interview with local broadcasting companies searching for prospective interns and employees. The career fair was held in the Exhibit Hall of the Student Union, on Monday.

While at the fair, students were able to get their resumes critiqued and enhanced by A&T alumnae and News & Record staff writer Tiffany S. Jones. Jones also has experience writing for The Grape Vine, The Jackson (Tenn.) Sun, and Burlington Times-News.

Jones began her studies as a broadcast news major and then changed to print journalism.

"Journalism involves asking questions, and regurgitating facts in a creative way. You have a skeleton, which is a guideline for you to follow," Jones said. "Writing is solely creativity, there are no constraints. There are opportunities to be creative in journalism, don't get me

wrong. But, you do have to follow certain guidelines," she explained.

Jones also spoke to students about what information to include in their resumes and cover letters. She suggested that students include relevant information in their resumes aimed for the job they are applying for, and to place unrelated information in the cover letter, to give employers more information about other skills.

"I wish more students would get involved with the Career Services. Many students need help preparing resumes and prepping for interviews. Some need assistance and guidance for appropriate dress code, and professional procedures," Jones said.

She went on to describe her personal appearance during the time she was launching her career.

"I had a relaxer coming in, now I have locks. I made changes to my appearance to fit my personality once I had the job, and was secured with my position. People have to be able to adjust, believe it or not," Jones said.

Travis Lane, a senior mass communication major with a concentration in broadcasting,

spent time interviewing with several companies at the career fair.

"I want to edit coverage for new stations, and small companies. Then I would like to even go as far as editing movies and films," Lane said.

Lane started college as an undecided major.

"I watched a lot of ESPN, and movies. I was very fascinated with how they edited their production films and recordings," he said.

During his sophomore year, he chose journalism and mass communications. "At first I just made a decision so that I would have a major," he said.

Lane said he helped a friend create a personal hip-hop video, and the editing of that project further convinced him to pursue his degree in broadcast journalism. Lane interviewed with companies TV13 Greensboro, and the Gospel Station TCT during the career fair.

Jasmine Wood, a sophomore journalism and mass communication major with a concentration in public relations, said she plans to focus on the fashion industry and become a publicist for an eminent designer once she is done servicing in the military.

"This is my first JOMC fair. The fair was very informative. I learned a lot from this experience," Wood said. "I see a lot of areas in which I can improve. I feel like I am ahead of the game. I was one of the few sophomores to attend the fair."

Wood said she created her own blog site, in which she uploads her articles and documents. She displayed material from her blog to potential employers.

Her portfolio consists of stories, question-and-answer articles, and slideshows of events she attended and reported on campus.

"My blog's purposes are to educate and make people aware of activities taking place on campus. It also allows people to enjoy my work, and give me suggestions or appraisals," she said.

As the JOMC department continues to grow, it hopes to organize bigger fairs. The department hopes to hold another career fair in the Spring.

In the meantime, students can visit the Office of Career Services in 101 Murphy Hall, Jones suggested. "I encourage people to go to OCS, use your resources."

OFF THE YARD

Stanford cancels tradition due to swine flu

BRUCE NEWMAN
MCT Campus

SAN JOSE, Calif. - Stanford University's century-old liplockapalooza called Full Moon on the Quad has sur-

vived mono, cold sores, bad breath, regular flu and even fears that HIV could be spread by kissing.

But it couldn't survive swine flu.

Stanford cancelled the tradition that dates back to the 19th century, when a senior would give a freshmen or dozens of freshmen a kiss in the sandstone quad during the first full moon of the school year.

But H1N1 a swinish strain of flu that sounds like a geometry proof, but in which H1+N1=0 kisses has brought the Full Moon crashing down.

And because it's Stanford, this decision was only arrived at following an extensive epidemiological review. Vice Provost for Student Affairs Greg Boardman issued the death knell Tuesday, denouncing frivolous quadrangular kissing on the California

campus as "unconscionable" under the circumstances.

Ira Friedman, director of the school's Vaden Health Center, said the university's administrators weren't any happier about shutting the event down than students were. "We're disappointed," Friedman said. "It's a longstanding, valued tradition that's looked forward to by a lot of people. But it doesn't make sense to have an event that involves a lot of kissing, the exact opposite of our isolation and social distancing strategies this year. H1N1 is not to be taken lightly."

Friedman also called Full Moon, originally scheduled for Oct. 4, "a recipe for disaster."

Among the affected undergraduate population milling around the Main Quad on Thursday, opinion seemed decidedly mixed. "I was disappointed to

hear that it had been cancelled," said Ben Cohn, a freshman from San Diego.

"My cousins went to school here, and they said it was the highlight of your orientation to Stanford. They can ban it officially, but I think just as many people will be kissing in other situations."

The kisses were chaste in the late 1800s when students lined up to give each other a nice peck. Over the decades, it evolved or devolved with some students showing up drunk or naked while groups handed out mints and condoms.

Cohn reluctantly acknowledged that the scope of the event could create a problem. "The mass kissing might be bad," he said. "One person could possibly kiss 50 people in one night. When it multiplies like that, it gets dangerous."

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Poll: Tax rich for health care

ERICA WERNER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — When it comes to paying for a health care overhaul, Americans see just one way to go: Tax the rich.

That finding from a new Associated Press poll will be welcome news for House Democrats, who proposed doing just that in their sweeping remake of the U.S. medical system, which passed earlier this month and would extend coverage to millions of uninsured Americans.

The poll, conducted by Stanford University with the non-partisan Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, found participants sour on other ways of paying for the health overhaul that is being considered in Congress, including taxing insurers on high-value coverage packages derided by President Barack Obama and Democrats as "Cadillac plans."

That approach is being weighed in the Senate. It is one of the few proposals in any congressional legislation that analysts say would help reduce the nation's health expenditures, but it has come under fire from organized labor and has little support in the House.

Lawmakers also are looking at levying new taxes on insurance companies, drug companies and medical device makers.

But the only approach that got majority support in the AP poll was a tax on upper-income Americans.

The House bill would impose a 5.4 percent income tax surcharge on individuals mak-

ing more than \$500,000 a year and households making more than \$1 million.

The poll tested views on an even more punitive taxation scheme that was under consideration earlier, when the tax would have hit people making more than \$250,000 a year.

Even at that level the poll showed majority support, with 57 percent in favor and 36 percent opposed.

"You know, I mean, why not? If they have that much money, it should be taxed," said Mary Pat Rondthaler, 60, of Menlo Park, Calif.

"It isn't the same way that the guy making \$21,000 is."

Not everyone agreed. "They earn their money. And they shouldn't have to pay for somebody else. It doesn't seem fair," said Emerson Wilkins, 62, of Powder Springs, Ga.

Overall, the poll found the public split on Congress' health care plans.

In response to some questions, participants said the current system needed to be changed, but they also voiced concerns about the potential impact on their own pocketbooks.

Preferring to push any new costs onto wealthier Americans.

For example, 77 percent said the cost of health care in the United States was higher than it should be, and 74 percent favored the broad goal of reducing the amount of money paid by patients and their insurers.

But 49 percent said any changes made by the government probably would cause them to pay more for health

care. Thirty-two percent said it wouldn't change what they pay, and just 12 percent said they would end up paying less.

With lawmakers searching for new revenue sources to pay for their overhaul legislation, upper-income taxes may be increasingly gaining favor.

Legislation passed by Senate committees did not go that route.

But now Majority Leader Harry Reid, who has a free hand in merging two committee-passed bills, is considering raising the payroll tax that goes to Medicare on income above \$250,000 a year, officials told The Associated Press last week.

Current law sets the tax at 1.45 percent of income, an amount matched by employers.

The Senate Finance Committee bill would tax health insurance plans costing more than \$8,000 annually for individuals and \$21,000 for families, although those numbers could rise.

Union members are lined up against that approach because they fear their benefits could be hurt, and the public doesn't like it either, the AP poll found.

Fifty-six percent were opposed and only 29 percent in favor.

Other payment methods being contemplated on Capitol Hill also met with disapproval.

Participants in the poll didn't support new taxes on medical device makers, drug companies or even insurers — even though they said in response to different questions that drug companies

and insurance companies made too much money.

Forty-eight percent in the poll were opposed to new taxes on insurance companies, and 42 percent were in support.

Fifty-one percent opposed raising taxes on drug and device makers, while 41 percent supported that approach.

But 72 percent of people polled said insurance companies made too much profit, compared with 23 percent who said they made about the right amount of profit.

And 74 percent said drug companies made too much profit, versus 21 percent who said they made about the right amount of profit.

People who told pollsters they generally supported Congress' health care overhaul plan were also more receptive to new taxes to pay for it.

Taxing health care companies, drug companies and equipment manufacturers eked out majority support from that group.

The payment approach that met with least approval by far in the poll was borrowing the money and increasing the federal debt, something Obama has repeatedly vowed not to do.

Just 6 percent of people polled said they could support that approach, while 88 percent opposed it.

The poll was based on landline and cell phone interviews with 1,502 adults from Oct. 29 to Nov. 8.

Political parties dispute details of BofA, Merrill deal

MARCY GORDON
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A senior House Democrat said Tuesday the government didn't force Bank of America to take over Merrill Lynch, but Republicans charged that a committee inquiry was covering up the role of an Obama administration official.

"The government did not elbow its way into this transaction," said House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Rep. Edolphus Towns. The New York Democrat said June testimony by Bank of America CEO Ken Lewis and documents obtained by the panel show it was the bank that forced the merger.

But the committee's ranking Republican, Darrell Issa of California, said the panel's work "has become an apparent cover-up of the continuing activities of the Obama administration," especially of Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner.

Geithner was chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York at the time of the merger in December 2008.

A Treasury spokesman did not immediately respond to a request for comment Tuesday morning.

The committee's inquiry is focused on the \$45 billion federal bailout of Charlotte, N.C.-based Bank of America and its hastily arranged acquisition of Merrill last year. Bank of America executives knew they had little chance of legally being able to back out of the deal to buy Merrill, Towns said.

The former top attorney of Bank of America testified at the hearing that he wasn't involved in crafting the bank's agreement to let Merrill pay billions of dollars in bonuses to its employees, before being abruptly fired last December on CEO Ken Lewis' orders.

Timothy Mayopoulos, who was general counsel at the second-largest U.S. bank until December 2008, also said he played no role in deciding whether to disclose the bonuses to Bank of America shareholders.

"To my recollection, I had no

role in this issue," Mayopoulos told the hearing. "That was done by others."

The Merrill deal, forged the same September weekend that Lehman Brothers collapsed, was first questioned after Bank of America disclosed that the investment bank would post 2008 losses of \$27.6 billion — far more than expected. Bank of America, which had already received \$25 billion in U.S. bailout aid, then asked for and received an additional \$20 billion from the government to help offset those losses.

Mayopoulos said he advised Bank of America executives that the bank couldn't make a case that Merrill's huge losses provided legal grounds for it to back out of the merger deal.

Brian Moynihan, president of consumer and small-business banking, who took over as Bank of America general counsel after Mayopoulos' departure, testified that "I did not feel pressured at any point by the government."

Moynihan is considered by analysts to be a leading candidate to replace Lewis.

Lewis came under even fiercer attack after Merrill, with the knowledge of BofA executives, gave \$3.6 billion in bonuses to its employees even as the government was doling out more rescue money.

The bonuses, which would normally have been paid in January, were paid out in December ahead of the deal's Jan. 1 completion.

The bonus flap ultimately cost former Merrill Lynch CEO John Thain his job at Bank of America, and the continuing fallout led Lewis to decide to step down at the end of this year.

A key issue is what legal advice Bank of America received regarding disclosing the amount of the bonuses — which could have totaled up to \$5.8 billion — to shareholders before their vote on the companies' merger.

The Securities and Exchange Commission sued Bank of America in August, alleging that it failed to tell shareholders that it had authorized Merrill to pay that amount in 2008 even though the investment bank had suffered the stunning loss.

Woman pleads guilty to Smart's kidnapping

JENNIFER DOBNER
Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A woman charged in the 2002 kidnapping of Elizabeth Smart pleaded guilty Tuesday as part of a deal with federal prosecutors and asked Smart to forgive her for all the pain she had caused.

Wanda Eileen Barzee apologized in court, saying she was "humbled as I realize how much Elizabeth Smart has been victimized and the role that I played in it."

"I am so sorry, Elizabeth, for all the pain and suffering I have caused you and your family," Barzee, 64, said. "It is my hope that you will be able to find it in your heart to forgive me."

Smart, now 22 and preparing to serve a mission in Paris for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, was not in court. But her father, Ed Smart, made a statement there.

"I just hope that Wanda realizes what she did and that it was absolutely wrong and absolutely horrible," he said.

Barzee, who wore a black

skirt and black flats, pleaded guilty to charges of kidnapping and unlawful transportation of a minor in U.S. District Court in Salt Lake City.

Sentencing for Barzee was set for May 19.

She could have faced a life sentence for the kidnapping charge and up to 15 years for the other count. However, under the plea deal, she is expected to receive 15 years in prison, with credit for about six years already served.

Barzee will be returned to the Utah State Hospital until her sentencing. She also will plead guilty in state court under the plea deal to one count of conspiracy to commit aggravated kidnapping and will cooperate in the case against her estranged husband, Brian David Mitchell.

Smart was 14 when she was taken at knifepoint from the bedroom of her Salt Lake City home, sparking a search that riveted the nation. Nine months later, in March 2003, Barzee and Mitchell were arrested after they were spotted walking on a suburban street with Smart.

Barzee's role in the abduction has garnered less attention than Mitchell's.

At a hearing last month, Smart said that within hours of the abduction, Mitchell took her as a polygamous wife and then raped her. Smart said Barzee washed the teen's feet and dressed her in robes before the ceremony.

Barzee often became upset over Mitchell's relationship with Smart, but that sentiment would never last, Smart said.

A 10-day competency hearing in Mitchell's case is set to begin Nov. 30 in federal court. Mitchell, 55, and Barzee were indicted on federal charges in March 2008.

Mitchell, a one-time itinerant street preacher, is accused of taking Smart as a wife in order to fulfill a religious prophecy included in a 27-page manifesto he wrote called "The Book of Immanuel David Isaiah."

Smart said she was raped daily by Mitchell throughout her nine months of captivity. She said he threatened to harm her if she ever tried to escape.

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Obama, Jintao show cooperation in trip to China to affirm diplomacy

NAME NAME
AP Political Writer

BEIJING (AP) — President Barack Obama and Chinese President Hu Jintao emerged from hours of intense talks Tuesday determined to marshal their combined clout on crucial issues, but still showing divisions over economic, security and human rights issues that have long bedeviled the two powers.

"The relationship between our two nations goes far beyond any single issue," Obama said in a joint appearance with Hu that followed about 2½ hours of private conversations.

Both leaders spoke in bold terms of the growing relation-

ship between the countries and emphasized cooperation on the economy, climate change, energy and the nuclear threats of Iran and North Korea.

But in those areas and others, there remained differences that underscored that tensions would hardly be erased in Obama's first, high-profile visit to China. Obama spoke at length about the nations' joint interests and said, "I do not believe that one country's success must come at the expense of another."

Obama and Hu said they agreed on restarting the collapsed six-nation effort to rid North Korea of its nuclear programs. The Chinese said the effort was essential to "peace and

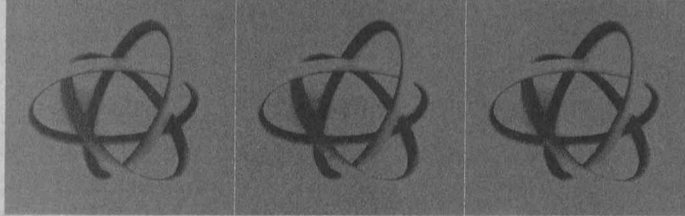
stability in northeast Asia."

Beijing has supported sterner sanctions against Pyongyang for its continued nuclear weapons program.

And, as North Korea's last major ally and a key supplier of food and energy aid, China is a partner with major leverage in six-nation talks with the North over the issue.

On Iran, where the U.S. needs China's clout to help pressure the nation to give up any of its own nuclear weapons positions, Obama spoke with sterner language than Hu.

"Our two countries need to oppose and reject protectionism in all its manifestations in an even stronger stand," Hu said.



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Just another notch in the resume belt?

Getting involved on campus is something that a lot of people take for granted here at A&T. Instead of being involved in clubs and activities because they want to help the campus or make a contribution, some people tend to join organizations so that it can lead to something else.

From social organizations or student government, people who are in several groups at a time are usually planning on becoming a member of another group. This would be cool as long as they were doing it for the right reasons.

You should do something on campus because you have a

passion for it and can positively contribute to it, and stop being a member of these organizations just to wear the t-shirt or be a part of the group.

You should serve the organization and let your actions speak louder than your words, and not just be involved because you want to increase your popularity or social status.

For example, every year around spring semester, the same thing happens: people who are a part of all of these miscellaneous clubs and activities on campus end up pledging into fraternities and sororities. Some people even run for SGA posi-



LAPORSHA LOWRY

you need to do it because you want to make the campus better and fulfill your duties and responsibilities for that position. In the past, it seems that some students who previously held SGA positions or ran for them

did it primarily to strengthen their case for Greek organizations.

As long as you can prove that you can do the job, I don't really care if you are in a fraternity, sorority, Couture or Verge.

You should not abandon prior commitments as soon as you get to where you want to be. Roles like being a Campus Life Mentor or student leader should be a role you get joy out of and not just because it looks good on your resume.

A friend said that after a while, she stopped seeing her Campus Life Mentor as often as she used to, and it turned out

that the person pledged. While it was OK for the person to join their organization, they should not have neglected their prior obligations.

If you want to get into a particular organization, then I advise you to do whatever you need to do to accomplish it. However, there should be balance among all of your commitments.

It is good if you want to be involved on campus, but please understand the organizations that you joined deserve the same amount of dedication that you would give the ones that you aspire to join.

When you become a member of a particular group, the obligations of previous organizations that you are a part of should not be affected.

You should not drop off your responsibilities and should not want to if you joined for the right reasons. Commitments should be taken seriously.

If you hold a position in one club and want to join another, do your job and make a contribution to both organizations and not just be a member in name only.

Don't be a part of it if you are going to do it halfway just to pad your resume in the end.

Got chocolate milk?

MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE
Chicago Tribune

When we learned there was a backlash against chocolate milk, we were eager to join the cause. Nature's Perfect Food is best enjoyed unadulterated by milk or anything else.

But it turns out the fight is over the chocolate part, not the milk part, and the battleground is the school cafeteria, so we're not allowed to joke about it. Childhood obesity is a serious threat, and chocolate milk is an insidious contributor. Or is it?

More than half the chocolate milk sold in America is packaged in those little half-pint containers that are a staple of the national school lunch program. Some parents and nutritionists think that's unconscionable. An 8-ounce serving has the equivalent of three teaspoons of added sugar, or about 45 calories. (That's half a banana for those of you on a restricted calorie diet; five minutes on the elliptical for you gym rats.)

Worse yet is the gateway effect: Kids who develop a taste for chocolate milk tend to lose interest in the plain stuff, progressing to harder drugs such as Yoo-hoo, Pepsi and Red Bull. As a result of these arguments, chocolate milk is being banned from a growing number of school cafeterias.

Last week the National Dairy Council struck back with a campaign to promote the health benefits of chocolate milk, along with an online petition encouraging parents to Raise Your Hand for Chocolate Milk.

What's good about it? Kids need the calcium to build strong bones.

Many of them don't get enough Vitamin D since we

started slathering them with SPF 50 every time they step outside. Of course, plain milk provides those same attributes, without the added sugar, if you can get the kids to drink it.

The dairy council argues that the extra calories aren't such a bad thing if the nutrients are consumed along with them. (And yes, we know that argument was used, unsuccessfully, to defend deep-fried zucchini.)

The cafeteria cops say kids would drink plain milk if not tempted by chocolate.

Offer them french fries or applesauce to go with their sandwich and they'll take fries every time, but offer them applesauce or applesauce and they'll happily eat applesauce.

Our experience suggests that if you offer them plain milk or plain milk, they'll go for the water fountain — but that's not scientifically valid.

Enter Haley Morris, Lizzy Hucker and Ivy Moore, fifth-graders at Roslyn Road School in Barrington Community Unit School District 220 in Illinois. The district's wellness committee did away with chocolate milk last year, but the girls are lobbying to bring it back. "Kids weren't drinking the white milk," Haley says.

Thanks to the girls' efforts, the schools now serve chocolate (and strawberry) milk on Fridays. District workers measure how much milk is tossed out on Fridays compared to other days. In January, administrators will tally the data and decide whether to serve flavored milks every day.

Is the issue really chocolate vs. plain? Or is it down the hatch vs. down the drain?

A thirsty world awaits their finding.



Fear of offending is a threat to us all

MICHAEL SMERCONISH
The Philadelphia Inquirer

That the Fort Hood gunman had plenty of enablers is unmistakable. But the fact that a number of red flags were ignored by so many is perfectly understandable given the context. Here is the reality:

Despite all the exhortations to report suspicious behavior in a post-9/11 world, we have seen the creation of a perilous climate in which the fear of offending has overtaken common sense even when lives are at stake.

The sanitization of American speech and thought has been building for some time. Before al-Qaeda, the sort of idiocy evident on the home front would have been good fodder for the world of talk radio, but otherwise unworthy of more than short rants.

I speak of things like the cancellation of Ladies' Night in bars after a man complains about paying more for a drink than a female patron.

Or the honor guard prohibited from saying "God bless you" as he hands an American flag to a grieving family at a military funeral.

The teachers who grade tests with purple ink instead of red to avoid harming the psyche of an underperforming student.

And the Little Leagues that hand out trophies to losing teams just for showing up.

But now these incidents have greater meaning, because the thinking behind them has impeded our ability to defend America.

It has become taboo to

suggest that in a war initiated by young Arab males who are religious fanatics, we should give heightened attention to young Arab males who might be religious fanatics. It is counterintuitive, and now catastrophic.

According to 9/11 Commission testimony, the Department of Transportation prohibited airlines from designating more than two individuals of the same ethnicity for secondary screening per flight. As 9/11 Commissioner John Lehman told me a few years ago:

"The fact is, our enemy is the violent, Islamic extremism, and so the overwhelming number of people that one need to worry about are young Arab males, and to ask them a couple of extra questions seems to me to be common sense."

The Transportation Department, however, didn't agree. United Airlines and American Airlines who combined lost 33 crew members and hundreds of passengers on 9/11 were each fined \$1.5 million for discrimination complaints lodged against them in the months after the attacks.

Continental Airlines, meanwhile, coughed up \$500,000.

Then there were the five Arab men who aroused suspicions by praying near Giants Stadium's main air duct and food preparation area during a New York Giants-New Orleans Saints game in September 2005.

That the game was a Hurricane Katrina fund-raiser attended by former President George H.W. Bush still didn't stop the men from publicly complaining about being detained and questioned.

The outcries of the offended caused stadium officials to set aside a designated prayer area,

no doubt a concession meant to stave off a lawsuit.

The so-called "flying imams," meanwhile, just settled their own lawsuit last month. Other passengers on a November 2006 flight from Minneapolis to Phoenix claimed the six Islamic spiritual leaders were praying and chanting before boarding.

Some reported hearing the men bad-mouthing George W. Bush and the Iraq war while invoking al-Qaeda and Osama bin Laden.

Their seats were scattered throughout the plane, and several requested seat-belt extenders despite not being overweight. They, too, were questioned and released.

Their attorney classified the case as one of "flying while Muslim." The resulting lawsuit — which named US Airways, the Minneapolis airport authority, and the investigating police officers and FBI agent — was settled for an undisclosed sum last month.

Notice the pattern? All cases of Americans doing what they're repeatedly told to do: report suspicious behavior.

All were met with public criticism or the obligatory discrimination lawsuit.

Every slight.
Every insult.
Every look askance.

Today, anything is grounds for the proverbial federal case. Indiscretions that once would've been settled with a hand gesture are now grounds for litigation. Worse, the muzzled, victim-filled society we have created now impedes the war on terror.

Want to know why, eight years after 9/11, we still don't look for terrorists at airports

and borders by keeping in mind what all the other terrorists have looked like?

Because we're afraid to offend. We have become a country of kvetchers and apologists, even while at war.

The same thinking that says kids on losing T-ball teams should get a trophy, or that an "F" grade should be delivered in purple, not red, puts interrogators in handcuffs at Guantanamo and holds back investigators back from looking for terrorists at airports.

It's no wonder that military supervisors and intelligence agents were reluctant to act against Maj.

Nidal Malik Hasan — despite the troubling PowerPoint presentation on Islam; the communications with Anwar al-Awlaki, the imam called the "spiritual adviser" to two of the 9/11 terrorists; the increasingly disturbing views of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the discussions about Hasan's mental health at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

No doubt that list will be expanded in the coming months.

It's not enough to attribute it all to "political correctness." The finger-pointing in the days after the Fort Hood shooting have robbed that term of its bite.

The broader message of the last eight years is clear: Report troubling behavior at your own risk.

Without an unimpeachable smoking gun, you could be smacked with a lawsuit, subjected to an investigation, or labeled a xenophobe.

Unfortunately, the lesson from Fort Hood is that by the time that smoking gun turns up, it's often too late.

The A&T Register is your chance to be heard. E-mail your editorials to theatregister@gmail.com

Lady Aggies volleyball season comes to end

SHALON BELL
Register Reporter

Luck has seemed to fall back downhill for the Aggie volleyball team since their match with the Rams.

Unfortunately, the Aggies were not able to keep up their winning streak losing and ending their season to North Carolina Central (25-21, 23-25, 25-20, 25-16) this past Monday.

The Aggies ended their season 2-31 partly because they lacked depth all season long.

They also did not find a coach until it was impossible to add depth to their team and when they finally did hire Toni Conway it wasn't the best timing.

Conway's mother had passed away during that period.

The Lady Aggies are in the rebuilding process and Monday's second set proved to be

promising for Conway's club.

They took a commanding 23-16 lead before winning the set after they suffered a disappointing first set that they let slip away.

The Eagles committed three straight attack errors and Janae Mitchell's kill closed out the second set.

The third set consisted of a service error and attack errors that destroyed the team's chances of winning the match.

The blue and gold also lost two previous matches against South Carolina State University and Elon University in the past two weeks.

Senior Tiffany Mellette of the Aggies managed spiked nine kills and fueled the run with 16 digs.

Janae Mitchell finished with 14 kills and six digs while sophomore Bree Dotstry added three kills and four digs.

Amber Inman posted 25 as-

sists and 13 digs.

It was the final career matches for Mitchell who finished the season averaging 2.77 kills per game and Mellette who led the team in digs 2.43 per game.

Other Lady Aggies departures include Stacey Malone and LaShawn White.

White will forgo her final season of eligibility aiding the team's chances of obtaining a strong recruiting class for the 2010 season.

AGGIES RUNDOWN

FOOTBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
South Carolina State	7-0	9-1
FAMU	5-2	7-3
NSU	5-3	6-4
Bethune-Cookman	4-3	5-5
Hampton	3-4	5-5
Morgan State	3-4	5-5
N.C. A&T	3-4	5-5
Delaware State	2-5	3-7
Howard	0-7	2-8

UPCOMING GAMES:
Saturday
@ South Carolina State
Orangeburg, S.C.
1:30 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
Coppin State	0-0	1-0
Morgan State	0-0	1-0
South Carolina State	0-0	1-0
Delaware State	0-0	0-0
FAMU	0-0	0-0
Hampton	0-0	0-0
N.C. A&T	0-0	0-1
Bethune-Cookman	0-0	0-1
Howard	0-0	0-1
UMES	0-0	0-1
NSU	0-0	0-1

UPCOMING GAMES:
Friday
vs. Davis & Elkins
Corbett Sports Center
7 p.m.

Monday
vs. Middle Tennessee St.
Corbett Sports Center
7 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
Coppin State	0-0	2-0
Bethune-Cookman	0-0	1-0
Delaware State	0-0	1-0
FAMU	0-0	1-0
South Carolina State	0-0	1-0
Howard	0-0	1-1
Morgan State	0-0	1-1
Hampton	0-0	0-0
UMES	0-0	0-1
NSU	0-0	0-1
N.C. A&T	0-0	0-1

UPCOMING GAMES:
Nov. 17-22
WNIT Tournament
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
TBA

Nov. 27
New Mexico Tournament
Albuquerque, N.M.
TBA

BOWLING

TEAM	OVR.
UMES	20-3
Delaware State	18-5
NSU	16-4
FAMU	14-9
Hampton	17-16
Morgan State	4-6
South Carolina State	5-5
Bethune-Cookman	7-15
N.C. A&T	8-12
Howard	6-17
Coppin State	0-10

UPCOMING MEETS:
Dec. 5-6
MEAC Southern Division
Orangeburg, S.C.
TBA

AROUND SPORTS

NFL INJURY
DAVIE, Fla. (AP) — Miami Dolphins running back Ronnie Brown will miss Thursday night's game at Carolina because of an injured right foot, and his status for the rest of the regular season is uncertain. Coach Tony Sparano says Brown will see a specialist for further evaluation. Brown is the Dolphins' leading rusher.

NCAA FOOTBALL
KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Tennessee coach Lane Kiffin says the decision to dismiss freshman wide receiver Nu'Keese Richardson and defensive back Mike Edwards was the best option for his team. The pair, along with safety Janzen Jackson, were charged in an attempted armed robbery outside a Knoxville convenience store on Thursday. Kiffin is waiting to make a decision on Jackson's future as he obtains more information about the freshman's role. The coach said Tuesday he'd spoken to parents of several players by phone to assure them Tennessee would not keep problem players around their sons.

The Associated Press

Lady Aggies lose at WNIT

LAUREN MORGAN
Register Reporter

The Lady Aggie Basketball team opened their season Friday night in the Women's National Invitational Tournament in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., with an 80-64 loss to Marist at the McCann Center.

Senior Ta'Wuana Cook led the Aggies with 15 points and five rebounds and sophomore Crystal Murchugh added 10 points and eight rebounds. Junior Jaleesa Sams finished with 10 points. Rachele Fitz led all scorers with 30 points; she added nine rebounds for the Red Foxes. Kristine Best recorded five assists for Marist.

After being down 7-1 at the 3:15 mark in the game, Sams recorded two jump shots for the Aggies decreasing the margin 15-9. The Aggies cut the lead to three 11 minutes into the game but Marist would go on a 9-2 run putting them up 25-15 with just under nine minutes left in first half. The Aggies tried to chip away at the Red Foxes lead but Marist would go on another run to lead A&T 35-20. At the end of the half Marist led the Aggies with a 16-point lead 45-29.

By the 14:40 mark in the second half the Red Foxes increased their lead to 22 points to 59-37. But the Aggies didn't falter.

With a little over 12 minutes left in the game the Aggies went on a 13-0 run ending with a three-point play by Sams which bought the Aggies within nine. Marist then went on a 7-0 run with just over eight minutes to play and from then on there was no turning back for the Red Foxes.

A&T outrebounded Marist 50-40 in the loss but also committed the game high 16 turnovers. The Red Foxes shot just over 48 percent in the game while A&T only shot 32 percent.

N.C. A&T Head Coach Patricia Cage-Bibbs was optimistic after the loss and believes in her team.

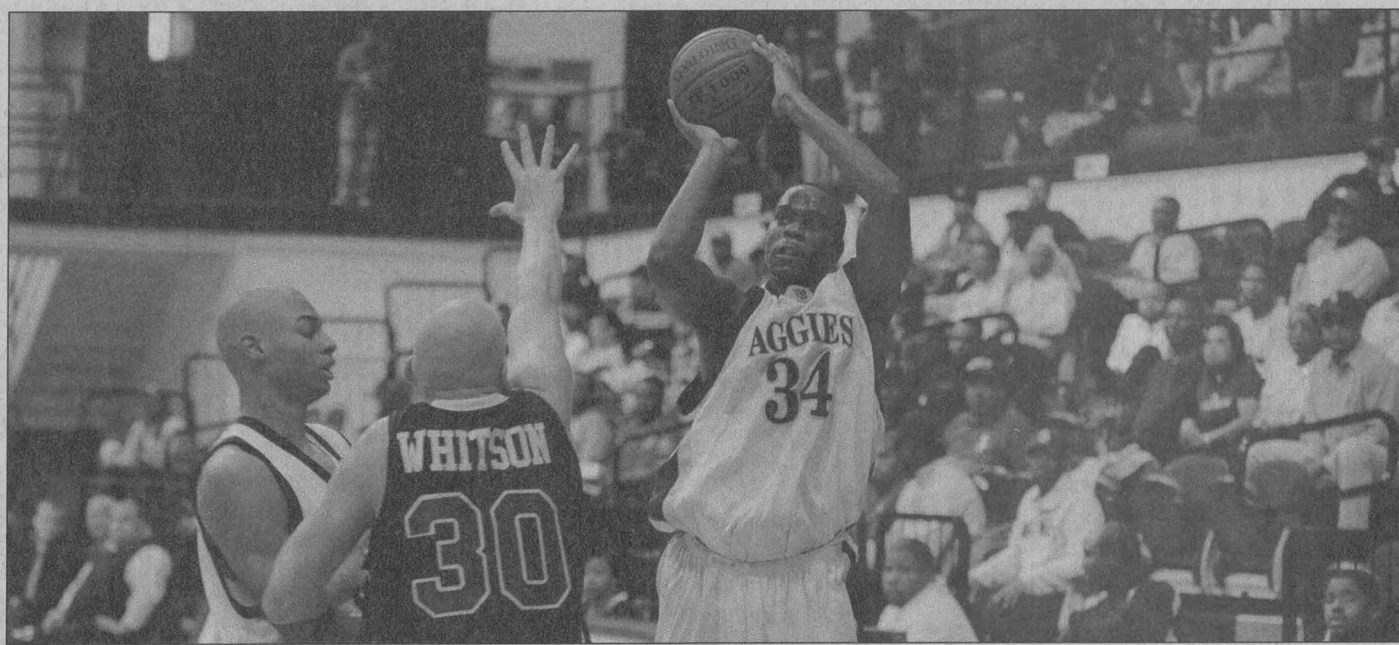
"You always like to win the first one, but at the same time you know there is a whole lot of season ahead," Bibbs said.

"We lost our first two last year and went on to have an outstanding year. Right now, we have some people getting used to new roles."

The reigning MEAC Champions are just one out of 16 division I teams in the country participating in the preseason WNIT.

"An invite to a tournament of this magnitude is truly an honor," Bibbs said.

"It shows the women's college basketball world is paying attention to this program, and what it has accomplished over the past few seasons."



ROBERT JOHNSON and the Aggies suffered a 79-63 road loss to Marshall University on Sunday, after dominating Brevard Community College 92-63 in their home opener Friday evening.

Aggies get trampled by the Thundering Herd

PRINCE ASKEW
Register Reporter

On Sunday the North Carolina A&T men's basketball team looked for its second win in three days when they traveled to Huntington, W.V. to play Marshall.

But after a tight first half, Marshall pulled away with a 79-63 consecutive win over the Aggies. It was 38-33 at the intermission and A&T shot 6-19 from behind the arc in a reachable game.

But the second half shooting woes plagued the Aggies as they watched the margin increase with their poor 1-11 three-point performance from the perimeter.

They finished the game just 7-30 from three-point range and shot just 31 percent from the field.

"Their bench probably wore down my young kids," said Eaves. "My young kids couldn't quite handle the intensity of a Division I game on this level. That will come as they get more experience."

Senior forward Robert Johnson led the team in scoring with 16 points while

6-foot-9 junior center Thomas Coleman recorded a double-double with 10 points and 13 rebounds.

Marshall out-rebounded the Aggies 50-39 and dominated points in the paint 30-18.

It was a much better performance last Friday against Brevard College for the blue and gold.

The Aggies won their season home opener in convincing fashion 92-63. Five Aggies finished in double digits in scoring including senior guard Tavarus Alston's 20 points and five assists and sophomore guard Nic Simpson's game high of 21.

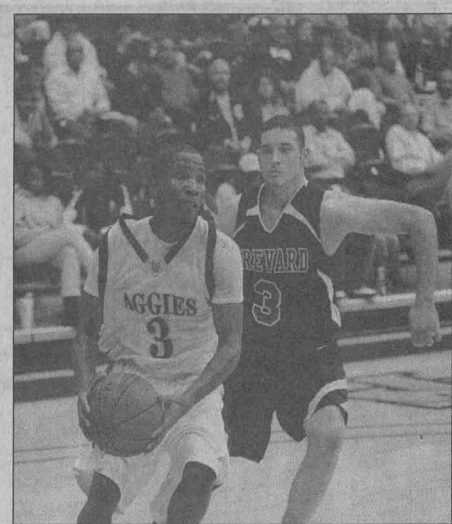
Sophomore Marc Hill added 11 points off of the bench and Johnson and Coleman combined for 28 points and 18 boards.

The game was lopsided in the Aggies favor as expected in the first half.

They finished the game shooting 38 percent from three-point range but were only 55 percent from the free throw line.

The Aggies were also 49-47 outrebounded in the game against Brevard as well.

"When you get a little winded you're



TAVARUS ALSTON led the Aggies in their home opener with 20 points, but struggled to find a rhythm on the road.

not as aggressive on the glass," said Eaves.

A&T will play host to Davis & Elkins College on Friday at 6 p.m.

Flag football team earns free trip to nationals

PRINCE ASKEW
Register Reporter

For the first time in school history, the North Carolina A&T State University flag football team was named the South-Atlantic regional champions.

They defeated the University of North Florida in convincing fashion with a 32-7 beat-down on November 8.

"It was a proud moment," said head coach Rob McNair.

"Not only for us, I think just the university as a whole, an HBCU winning a regional tournament. You don't find that at most Regionals."

This was the next step for A&T's Finest, the back-to-back to back state champions who fell short against North Florida at last year's national championship game.

It was sweet revenge for the tournament MVP, wide receiver and safety Darius Cobb who said the loss from last year didn't sit right with him.

"I had to prove a point from last year when they beat us by two points," Cobb said.

Even with the taste of redemption however, the season still isn't complete. The Aggies have their eyes set on the national championship. They will never

fully avenge their loss against North Florida unless they win the title that UNF kept them from winning last year.

Wide receiver and cornerback Lay Johnston said it would mean a lot for him but he also wanted to win for coach McNair.

"I want to bring my coach a championship," wide receiver Lay Johnston said.

"I want to win this for him and his wife and his family. He's like a father figure to me."

The South-Atlantic regional victory gives A&T's Finest a free entry and travel stipend to the national tournament at the University of New Orleans.

Though anticipation for that game is clearly building, linebacker, safety & center Olajdie Pullen says the team is focused on what's next at hand.

"We never try to get too far ahead of ourselves," Pullen said.

"You can never overlook your opponents or never look too far ahead in the future."

On Friday, A&T's Finest will go to compete for another regional title in a different division at the University of Maryland.

The national championship will follow this weekend's tournament.

BCS appoints director

RALPH D. RUSSO
Associated Press

Defending the Bowl Championship Series and trying to convince critics that it is the best way to determine a college football champion has to qualify as one of the toughest jobs in America. Bill Hancock now has that job.

Hancock, the former director of the NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament, was selected Tuesday to become the first executive director of the BCS.

He has been the BCS administrator since 2005, often acting as a spokesman for the conference commissioners.

Hancock will still be working for those decision-makers, but starting next year he will be the public face of the BCS and the top advocate for their choices.

"My feeling is that I can help people understand it," he said in a telephone interview. "A lot of the frustration with the BCS is because people don't understand it."

"The fact is a playoff would be as contentious or more contentious than what we have now."

"A playoff is just not right for college football."

The executive director position will replace the BCS coordinator.

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SCENE HEARD



Mya Leads in DTWS Semis!

R&B singer Mya leads the pack after the semifinals of "Dancing With the Stars" yesterday, scoring 87 out of 90 after three dances in the evening with her partner Dmitry Chaplin.

Swimsuit model Joanna Krupa and partner Derek Hough were second place with 81 points. Kelly Osbourne garnered a total of 78 with partner Louis van Amstel.

Donnie Osmond and partner Kym Johnson came in 4th place with 74. The finals of season nine will air next Monday at 8 p.m. on ABC.

If Mya wins, she will be the first black woman to take home the mirror ball trophy.

-L.L.

Jazz ensemble honors 'Sir Duke'

LAPORSHA LOWRY
Scene Editor

The Jazz ensemble is honoring jazz legend Duke Ellington in a concert this week.

The Department of Visual & Performing Arts and the University Jazz Ensemble will be presenting a musical performance entitled "A Salute to Duke" on Thursday at 7 p.m. in Harrison Auditorium.

The first half of the concert features music by other jazz greats such as John Coltrane and W.C. Handy, leading up to the exciting tribute to Ellington.

A&T's Jazz Orchestra is commemorating Ellington, one of the most popular and prolific composers, pianists and big band leaders in the world.

The concert is directed by A&T Music Department adjunct professor and director of jazz, noted jazz trumpeter and composer Mondre Moffett, who performed with the Duke Ellington Orchestra, from 1995 to 2000.

When asked how the members of the ensemble had to prepare and practice for the concert, Moffett said that they had to internalize the music in order to emulate it properly.

"It begins with listening. They had to understand Ellington's musical vernacular and know that in order to imitate it, you have to hear it.

Once I explained his concept of bringing out the personality of each artist and instrument, they were able to develop a collective sound."

Some of the students who will be featured are sophomore Eric Giles, who plays alto saxophone, senior Allen Jones, who plays violin, Kasey Polk, a sophomore who plays clarinet,



PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE THEATRE DEPARTMENT-NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY

TRIBUTE TO SIR DUKE the Jazz ensemble will be performing the classic compositions of the legendary Duke Ellington on Thursday in Harrison Auditorium.

and Eric Meline, a junior who plays tenor saxophone.

There are also three vocalists who will be performing a rendition of "Come Sunday," one of Ellington's most famous compositions.

Moffett explained the inspiration behind the concert, saying that he wanted students to connect to Ellington's work.

"The goal was to relate students with the jazz legacy because Ellington was a pioneer of the jazz concert and was the

first to make live jazz a normal event."

Moffett hopes that the audience enjoys the cultural experience and appreciates the sound that is connected with Ellington's excellence.

"He was the first to do a lot of things, and that in itself took courage.

We are trying to give the audience some insight into the mystique and magic of the music.

When I listen to his music,

I hear something different and the point of the concert is to be an example of the wonderful vision that Sir Duke so eloquently put forth."

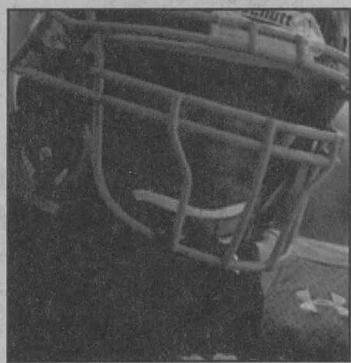
General admission for the concert is \$10. Non-A&T students are \$5 and A&T students are free with their Aggie OneCard.

Get your tickets from the ticket office in Brown Hall

MOVIE REVIEW: THE BLIND SIDE

'Blind Side' focuses on the feel-good

GLENN WHIPP
The Associated Press



The redemption-minded sports flick "The Blind Side" serves its inspiration straight-up with no twist.

Writer-director John Lee Hancock wisely lets the true story of Michael Oher, the black teen who found a home and, eventually, football stardom, after being adopted by a wealthy Memphis family, speak for itself. That direct focus delivers a feel-good crowd-pleaser, but it also drains the film of the kind of subtle nuances that might have separated it from other Hollywood Hallmark-like efforts, including Hancock's own "The Rookie."

As chronicled in author Michael Lewis' book, "The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game," Oher spent his first 16 years living in a shell. When he improbably landed at Memphis' Briarcrest Christian School, he had an IQ of 80 and an inability to cope with a mere conversation. His prospects looked dim until he was taken in by Sean and Leigh Anne Tuohy.

For everything he lacked in life (family, food, a place to sleep), Oher had been blessed with the rare blend of size, strength and quickness sought by football coaches for the valuable left tackle position. That spot on the offensive line protects a right-handed quarterback from hits he can't see coming. If Oher could somehow develop his raw talent into practiced technique, he could win a col-

lege scholarship and, possibly, a professional football career.

"The Blind Side" dutifully chronicles the transformation of Oher (played by newcomer Quinton Aaron with the proper less-is-more approach) from blank slate to a fully-formed young man, emphasizing Leigh Anne (Sandra Bullock) at the expense of Sean (Tim McGraw).

Bullock brings her trademarked spunkiness to the mother hen role, delivering an iron-willed woman who looks past appearances to do the right thing.

"You are changing that boy's life," notes one of Leigh Anne's condescending ladies-who-lunch pals.

"No," Leigh Anne replies. "He's changing mine."

That solemn rebuke captures the spirit of the movie in a nutshell, though, strangely, we never see any actual change in Bullock's indomitable Memphis mama from the beginning of the movie to the end. Husband Sean, consigned to couch duty for most of the film (when he isn't commenting on how plucky his wife is), tells Oher that Leigh Anne is

an "onion," but Hancock doesn't go beyond peeling the first layer.

The movie does address allegations that the Tuohys took an interest in Oher so they could steer the prodigy to Ole Miss, their beloved alma mater. That inclusion seems designed more to give the leisurely film some much-needed tension than actually probe the issue, since the obstacles facing Oher rarely feel threatening in the film.

As was the case with "The Rookie," Hancock aims to present a reality that comforts and inspires, populated by people actively living their beliefs. Why did the Tuohys take in Oher? Without definitively answering that question, the film poses one of its own: Why don't more people follow their lead?

Grade



Thousands cheer stars of 'Twilight' sequel in LA review

MIKE CIDONI
The Associated Press

Exactly 12 months ago, Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson were surprised to be greeted by throngs of eager fans of the novel "Twilight" at the premiere of the big-screen adaptation.

What a difference a year makes.

The actors unveiled the sequel — "The Twilight Saga: New Moon" — at the same location Monday night in the Westwood neighborhood of Los Angeles.

But this time they knew what was coming.

"I'm not as scared as I was last year," said Stewart, despite a brief touch-and-go moment as she signed autographs.

"At some point, the security guy said, 'This is very unsafe.' And I was like, 'Uh. Other than that, everything was cool.'"

Pattinson, who plays vampire Edward Cullen in this latest adaptation of author Stephenie Meyer's popular series, said this year's crowd of thousands of screaming fans was larger than the 2008 turnout.

"And it seems different to me because we have done this world tour in the last week and it has just been unbelievable in every single city," he said.

"It is about 10 times bigger than any other city in the world."

Some "twi-hards" — as they call themselves — arrived as early as Thursday afternoon to secure a place in line for tickets allowing them to watch the

stars' arrivals on the red carpet. The 800 available tickets were all distributed by Monday morning, but the line still stretched for blocks well after lunchtime.

Nicole Zamora, 36, was sixth in line after getting to Westwood on Thursday afternoon.

She and her three sisters wore "New Moon" T-shirts they'd made for the occasion and said they spent the weekend "reading, listening to the iPod and trying to sleep — anything to pass the time."

Christina Fuentes and four of her friends traveled from New Jersey for the "New Moon" premiere.

The 24-year-old wore vampire teeth ("They just clip on," she said) and carried a homemade sign that read, "We flew in from NJ!"

We've been camping out for three days just to see you!" She pasted her airline boarding pass to the poster as proof.

Scores of other fans — mostly young women — crowded onto street corners near the Mann Village and Bruin theaters, site of the premiere.

They sat on beach chairs, displayed homemade signs and wore T-shirts proclaiming their allegiance to either the handsome vampire played by Pattinson or his werewolf rival, Taylor Lautner.

Lautner, who rises to headliner status in "New Moon," said he was also amazed by Monday's fan response.

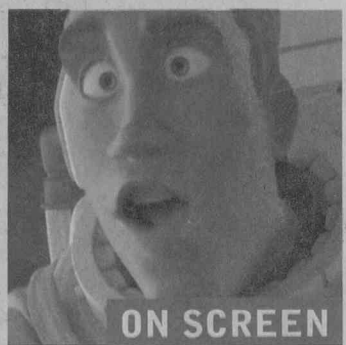
"It's the amount of passion," he said. "It's not normal."

Twilight hits theaters this Friday

hotlist

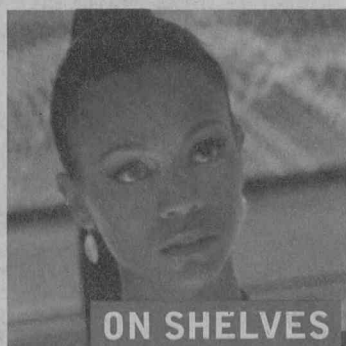
Nov. 18th to 24th

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



PLANET 51 starring Dwayne Johnson, Jessica Biel and Justin Long, opens on Friday. The film follows a NASA astronaut, Captain Charles "Chuck" Baker (Dwayne Johnson) who lands on Planet 51 thinking he's the first to set foot on it. However, he discovers it's inhabited by little green people. He freaks out the aliens, who think he's an alien.

-L.L.



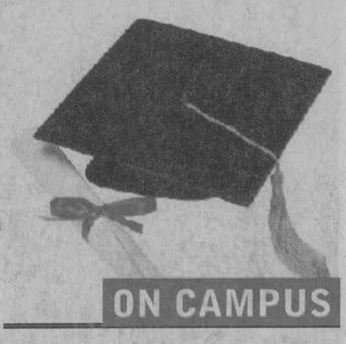
STAR TREK directed by J. J. Abrams, is now available on DVD. The film follows James T. Kirk (Chris Pine) and Spock (Zachary Quinto) before they unite aboard the USS Enterprise to combat Nero (Eric Bana), a Romulan from their future who threatens the United Federation of Planets. Zoe Saldana (above) also stars as Nyota Uhura.

-L.L.



NUMBER ONES the second greatest hits album by Janet Jackson, is now in stores. The 2-disc set is composed of her number-one hit singles such as "Control," "Rhythm Nation," "That's the Way Love Goes." The album's single, "Make Me," is available for digital download.

-L.L.



SENIOR PICTURES will be held in the Memorial Room of Memorial Student Union on Monday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Presented by Student Development, the pictures will be featured in the Ayantee Yearbook.

-L.L.

20 QUESTIONS

1. Did you watch "For the Love of Ray J" this week?
2. Were you really surprised that someone else "smashed the homies"?
3. Are you even less surprised that he didn't eliminate her?
4. Did you notice the Taco Bell on Summit reopened?
5. Did they lose their tortilla license from headquarters and placed on probation?
6. Where do you go to get a tortilla license?
7. Does Taco Bell send their cooks to Mexico like Olive Garden sends their chefs to Italy?
8. Would you care more if the Church's Chicken shut down?
9. Did you hear there might be a lawsuit filed against A&T about the homecoming concert?
10. Does filing a lawsuit mean you have to relinquish your "Keep it Gucci" card?
11. Since when does a man named after a designer of belts and handbags come to mean gangster?
12. Do you remember when "keeping it G" meant gangster and not Gatorade?
13. Did Gatorade have to grab Wayne to compete with 50 and Vitamin Water?
14. Was Michael Jordan not enough?
15. How many people woke up at 3:30am to see the meteor shower?
16. Did you see anything?
17. Did anyone in the US see anything?
18. Should we blame it on the lights?
19. Was it all a hoax?
20. Do you feel stupid for waking up to look?