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The artwork of Samuel Lind lands on campus

Famed Puerto Rican artists opens exhibit in University Galleries • PAGE 8



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THE A&T REGISTER

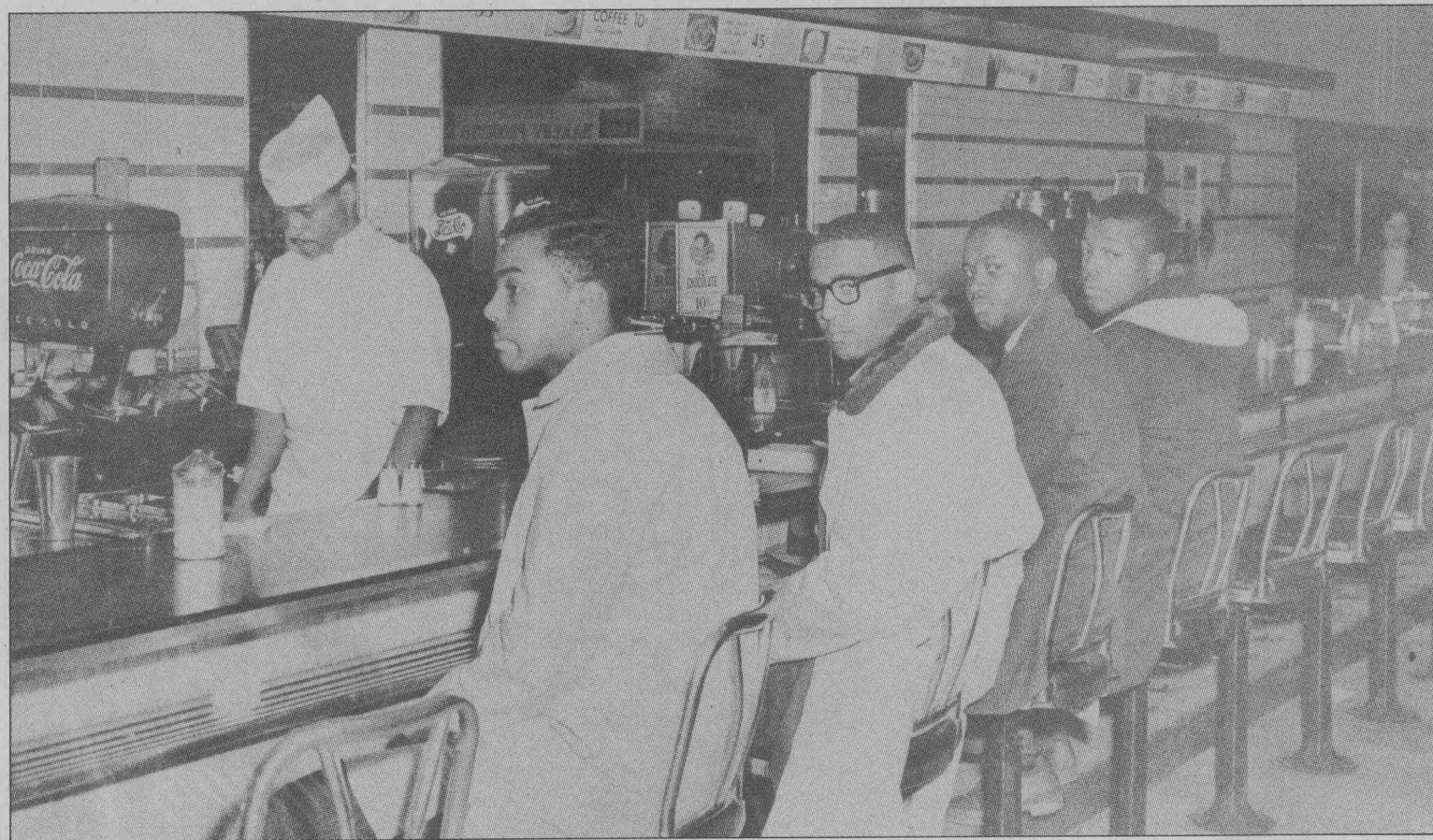
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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2008

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY

VOLUME LXXXI, NO. 18

NCATREGISTER.com



THEY SAT FOR US: (L to R) A&T students Joseph McNeil, Franklin McCain, Billy Smith and Clarence Henderson sit at the Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro on Feb. 2, 1960, Day 2 of the Woolworth Sit-In. After starting with only four students on the first day, the numbers increased as the week went on.

PHOTO BY JACK NOBBES - NEWS & RECORD

February One Revisited

University honors the legacy of four students who started a national movement that changed the course of American civil rights and put this then, small, black college in the South on the map.

BY LASHAWN PARKER
and MICHAEL J. McCRAY
THE A&T REGISTER

The picture alone may not seem like much more than an old snapshot of four young men at a lunch counter but forever frozen in time in that image was the beginnings of an era of change in American history.

It was day two of sit-ins at the F.W. Woolworth when Joseph McNeill, Franklin McCain, Billy Smith and Clarence Henderson were immortalized in film but it was only the beginning.

Smith and Henderson weren't there on the first day but McCain and McNeill were. Along with fellow A&T freshmen David Richmond and Ezell Blair Jr., they made the two mile journey to

downtown Greensboro.

Freshmen then were a lot like freshmen now, most upperclassmen frowned upon if not pity you, not for your lack of ambition just your lack of experience in college life.

At the peak of racial tensions and injustice in the South, four freshmen decided to leave their mark in their community and unwittingly started one of the most successful and peaceful protests ever.

On Feb. 1, 1960 the impact of this historical decision not only shook their college community and the city of Greensboro but an entire nation.

All residents of Scott Hall (which was recently renamed for

SEE A&T FOUR ON PAGE 2



UNITED: (From left) David Richmond, Franklin McCain, Ezell Blair Jr. and Joseph McNeil in route to F.W. Woolworth's and there place in history as the A&T/Greensboro four.

Do I know you?

The key to saving your GPA is as simple as making an impression with your professors

BY STACIE BAILEY
THE A&T REGISTER

Just when you thought you had it in the bag, you discover it's not enough. Not only did you come to class every day, you showed up on time, went to sleep in the back of the class, as the teacher took role and counted you absent because you didn't respond.

College is like a job: your teacher is your employer and you are the employee. What is your pay? A degree that can take you to places you never knew existed.

It's not enough to show up and do what you're assigned. You have to stand out, but more importantly, you have to make a respectable impression.

So, as young adults building upon what we know in hopes of becoming what we never knew existed, how should we go about obtaining that good standing with our "employers" and why should we have to?

First, let's start with the sim-

ple act of coming to class. Even if your teacher posts most of the notes on Blackboard or only takes notes out of the book, it's still a good idea to attend class in case you have any questions. Teachers love when you do that! That means you're paying attention and you want to understand what you're being taught.

It's one thing to show up, it's another to come to class on time. What's the point in coming to class at 8:30 when the class ends at 8:50?

"The biggest problem up to this point is me being late for class," said Marcus Thurston, a business marketing major from Washington, D.C.

"I know that has a lot to do with maybe a bad impression. So what I've been doing this semester, I've been showing up on time and it seems like they look at me a little bit different."

"I think it's like a respect thing. I didn't really view it as disrespectful. I just saw it as me

SEE IMPRESSIONS ON PAGE 2

REFUND CHECKS

Chancellor to address refund check process

BY KEISHA THOMAS
THE A&T REGISTER

Many students breathed a sigh of relief in the event of the early arrival of refund checks last week.

Prior to the disbursement of checks, a number of students were angry about having to come out-of-pocket or get a book voucher to purchase books for classes that had already begun.

Another major concern was that other students in the UNC system had received their refund checks already, although their schools had not opened as yet.

Aggravated students joined the group "The NC A&T Refund Check Uprising" on the popular online community, the Facebook, and shared stories of financial despair.

The group reached 1,087 members as of Tuesday morn-

ing.

Antoine Lilly, a graduate student from Durham and creator of the group, says that his focus is being a positive voice, and that students must learn how to get their point across without negativity.

"We've made a difference, but money doesn't quiet the movement. We are agents of change, and we will continue to voice our concerns to help our university become what we need it to be."

The term "Aggie Tenth" is used to describe the 1,000+ population of the group, representing over 10 percent of the A&T student population.

Described as a "peaceful, organized group that is looking to make a change," it attracted

over 600 students in its first two days of establishment and served as a central location for breaking news and information on the disbursement of refund checks from the Dowdy Administration Building, including a letter of concern which was sent on behalf of the members of the group.

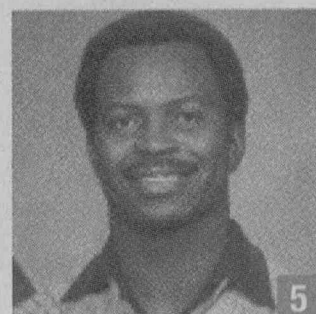
The spring 2008 refund information has been revised and updated. It is now on the Web

site for all students to find all the details that they need. The information has been disseminated via the student listserv, according to Mable Scott, associate vice chancellor for public relations.

Lilly, along with a few stu-

SEE REFUNDS ON PAGE 2

theYARD



REMEMBERING RONALD McNAIR

We look back on the life of one of A&T's most distinguished alumni whose life was cut tragically short this week 22 years ago.

theWORLD

HIATI'S POOR EAT DIRT TO SURVIVE

Hiati's poorest forced to eat dirt as the cost of food gets higher in cash strapped country. PAGE 3

theBIZ

METROPOLITAN STYLE IN THE BORO

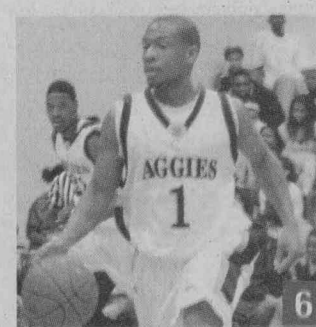
Local furniture store caters to young professionals seeking major metro style in Greensboro. PAGE 4

theWORD

BECOMING AN AGENT OF CHANGE

With the success of the student-led movement to change the refund check process, one Aggie is encouraging students to unify for other campus causes. PAGE 5

theSCORE



AGGIES HANDLE BUSINESS AT HOME

Both basketball teams continued their winning ways with decisive victories over Winston-Salem State on Saturday and South Carolina State on Monday night.

theSCENE

BATTLE OF I-40 HITS THE RUNWAY

After big wins over Winston-Salem State on the hardwood, the Aggies took the rivalry to the runway in a fashion show at WSSU. PAGE 8

WEATHER



Hi: 46°
Lo: 25°

THURS: Partly Cloudy | High 50°
FRIDAY: Thunder/Rain | High 56°

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Haiti's poorest forced to eat dirt

BY JONATHAN M. KATZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — It was lunchtime in one of Haiti's worst slums, and Charlene Dumas was eating mud.

With food prices rising, Haiti's poorest can't afford even a daily plate of rice, and some take desperate measures to fill their bellies.

Charlene, 16 with a 1-month-old son, has come to rely on a traditional Haitian remedy for hunger pangs: cookies made of dried yellow dirt from the country's central plateau.

The mud has long been prized by pregnant women and children here as an antacid and source of calcium. But in places like Cite Soleil, the ocean-side slum where Charlene shares a two-room house with her baby, five siblings and two unemployed parents, cookies made of dirt, salt and vegeta-

ble shortening have become a regular meal.

"When my mother does not cook anything, I have to eat them three times a day," Charlene said. Her baby, named Woodson, lay still across her lap, looking even thinner than the slim 6 pounds 3 ounces he weighed at birth.

Though she likes their buttery, salty taste, Charlene said the cookies also give her stomach pains. "When I nurse, the baby sometimes seems colicky too," she said.

Food prices around the world have spiked because of higher oil prices, needed for fertilizer, irrigation and transportation. Prices for basic ingredients such as corn and wheat are also up sharply, and the increasing global demand for biofuels is pressuring food markets as well.

The problem is particularly dire in the Caribbean, where island nations depend on im-

ports and food prices are up 40 percent in places.

The global price hikes, together with floods and crop damage from the 2007 hurricane season, prompted the U.N. Food and Agriculture Agency to declare states of emergency in Haiti and several other Caribbean countries.

Caribbean leaders held an emergency summit in December to discuss cutting food taxes and creating large regional farms to reduce dependence on imports. At the market in the La Saline slum, two cups of rice now sell for 60 cents, up 10 cents from December and 50 percent from a year ago.

Beans, condensed milk and fruit have gone up at a similar rate, and even the price of the edible clay has risen over the past year by almost \$1.50. Dirt to make 100 cookies now costs \$5, the cookie makers say.

Still, at about 5 cents apiece, the cookies are a bargain com-

pared to food staples. About 80 percent of people in Haiti live on less than \$2 a day and a tiny elite controls the economy.

Merchants truck the dirt from the central town of Hinche to the La Saline market, a maze of tables of vegetables and meat swarming with flies. Women buy the dirt, then process it into mud cookies in places such as Fort Dimanche, a nearby shanty town.

Carrying buckets of dirt and water up ladders to the roof of the former prison for which the slum is named, they strain out rocks and clumps on a sheet, and stir in shortening and salt. Then they pat the mixture into mud cookies and leave them to dry under the scorching sun.

The finished cookies are carried in buckets to markets or sold on the streets. A reporter sampling a cookie found that it had a smooth consistency and sucked all the moisture out of the mouth as soon as it touched

the tongue. For hours, an unpleasant taste of dirt lingered.

Assessments of the health effects are mixed.

Dirt can contain deadly parasites or toxins, but can also strengthen the immunity of fetuses in the womb to certain diseases, said Gerald N. Callahan, an immunology professor at Colorado State University who has studied geophagy, the scientific name for dirt-eating.

Haitian doctors say depending on the cookies for sustenance risks malnutrition.

"Trust me, if I see someone eating those cookies, I will discourage it," said Dr. Gabriel Thimothee, executive director of Haiti's health ministry.

Marie Noel, 40, sells the cookies in a market to provide for her seven children. Her family also eats them. "I'm hoping one day I'll have enough food to eat, so I can stop eating these," she said. "I know it's not good for me."



The A&T Register's guide what your favorite major Presidential hopefuls were up to over the past week.

AVAILABLE ONLINE!

Super Tuesday comes straight to you Aggies!

McCain wins Florida GOP primary; Giuliani ready to endorse him

BY DAVID ESPO
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MIAMI (AP) — Sen. John McCain won a breakthrough triumph in the Florida primary Tuesday night, seizing the upper hand in the Republican presidential race ahead of next week's coast-to-coast contests and lining up a quick endorsement from soon-to-be dropout Rudy Giuliani.

"It shows one thing: I'm the

conservative leader who can unite the party," McCain told The Associated Press after easing past former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney for his first-ever triumph in a primary open only to Republicans.

"We have a ways to go, but we're getting close" to the nomination, he said later in an appearance before cheering supporters.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton was the Democratic winner

in a primary held in defiance of national rules that drew no campaigning and awarded no delegates.

The victory was worth 57 Republican National Convention delegates for McCain, a winner-take-all haul that catapulted him ahead of Romney in that category.

Romney, who has spent millions of dollars of his personal fortune to run for the White House, vowed to stay in the

race.

"At a time like this, America needs a president in the White House who has actually had a job in the real economy," the former businessman told supporters in St. Petersburg.

Giuliani, the former New York mayor, ran third. It was his best showing of the campaign, but not nearly good enough for the one-time front-runner who decided to make his last stand in a state that is home to tens of thousands of transplanted New Yorkers.

Several officials familiar with events said he intended to endorse McCain on Wednesday in California.

In remarks to supporters in Orlando, Giuliani referred to his candidacy repeatedly in the past tense — as though it were over.

"We'll stay involved and together we'll make sure that we'll do everything we can to hand our nation off to the next generation better than it was before," he said.

Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee ran fourth in the primary but told supporters he would campaign on. Texas Rep. Ron Paul was fifth, and last.

Florida marked the end of one phase of the campaign, the last in a series of single-state contests that winnowed a once unwieldy field.

The race goes national next week — McCain said it would be the closest thing to a nationwide primary as any event in history.

Twenty-one states hold Republican primaries and caucuses on Tuesday with 1,023 convention delegates at stake.

Returns from 81 percent of Florida's precincts showed McCain, the Arizona senator, with 36 percent of the vote and Romney, the former governor of Massachusetts, with 31 percent.

In the overall delegate race, it was McCain 93, Romney 59, Huckabee 40, Paul has four and Giuliani one.

The victory was another step in one of the most remarkable political comebacks of recent times. McCain entered the race the front-runner, then found his campaign out of funds and unraveling last summer as his stands in favor of the Iraq War and a controversial immigration bill proved unpopular.

The war gradually became

less of a concern after President Bush's decision to increase troop deployments began to produce results. McCain also sought to readjust his position on immigration.

By the time of the New Hampshire primary, he had retooled his candidacy and ridden his Straight Talk Express campaign bus to over 100 town hall meetings.

He won in New Hampshire, stumbled in Michigan, but won the South Carolina primary last week, taking first place in the state that had snuffed out his presidential hopes in 2000.

McCain's previous triumphs this year, and in two states in 2000, came in elections open to independents as well as Republicans.

He campaigned in Florida with the support of the state's two top Republican elected officials, Gov. Charlie Crist and Sen. Mel Martinez.

Romney's only primary win so far was in Michigan, a state where he grew up and claimed a home-field advantage. He also has caucus victories to his credit in Wyoming and Nevada.

A survey of voters as they left their polling places Tuesday showed the economy was the top issue for nearly half. McCain led his rival among those voters, blunting Romney's weeklong effort to persuade Floridians that his background as a businessman made him best-suited for heading off a recession.

McCain also benefited from the support of self-described moderates, as well as older voters and Hispanics. Giuliani ran second among Latino voters, according to preliminary exit poll data.

Romney was favored by voters opposed to abortion and to easing the path to citizenship for illegal immigrants.

About 40 percent of self-described conservatives supported him, as well, compared to about 25 percent for McCain.

The poll was conducted by Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International for The Associated Press and the television networks.

The Democratic primary was controversial by its very existence, an act of defiance against national party officials who wanted it held later in the year.

Even so, Clinton sought to emphasize her performance in the state, holding a victory rally as the polls were closing.

She challenged Barack Obama to agree to seat the delegates on the basis of the night's vote, but he demurred, saying he would abide by an agreement all Democratic candidates had made months ago.

"Those decisions will be made after the nomination, not before," Obama told reporters Tuesday on a plane from Washington to Kansas.

"Obviously, I care a lot about the people in Michigan and a lot about the people in Florida. And I want their votes in the general election. We'll be actively campaigning for them."

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COOL LOCAL BUSINESS

Major metropolitan style in the heart of GSO

BY MIA HOWARD
THE A&T REGISTER

At 518 South Elm Street, near other artsy stores, is the only furniture store in Greensboro that sells furniture and other cool home fixtures that are appealing to persons who adore metropolitan style.

Area Modern Home and Lighting has been established for eight years, catering mostly to people who have once lived in metropolitan cities such as New York, Boston, Chicago or Atlanta.

The items in this store have vibrant colors and high-technology fixtures. Upon walking into this store a beige reclined couch called a Chaise Lounge sits to

the left. This couch allows you to recline with your feet up and your head back.

The store has a very elegant feel, despite its metropolitan style. The style of furniture is much like the furniture you see in futuristic movies like "I-Robot," "The Matrix," and "Men In Black."

Area Modern Home and Lighting also offers long kitchen tables, chairs, glass dishes, throw pillows, beds, various styles of lighting, and cool clocks. Many of the items sold to students at this store would be the lighting and fixtures.

Among other fixtures are unique cuff links, self-help books, photo albums, picture frames, fragrant candles,

handbags, watches, vases, and globes.

Every piece of furniture belongs to a specific section. Each section is given a name to describe its style. Many of the items offer comic relief, such as a replicated Barbie doll that dances on a poll once you plug your MP3 player into it. There is also a set of coasters that tell you how to make your favorite alcoholic beverage.

Prices for everything in the store range anywhere from \$5 to \$2,000. In May during the Arts and Antiques festival, Area Modern Home and Lighting has a big clearance.

The owner, Mark says, "Everyone is always welcome, even if it's to just look around."



PHOTO BY LEROY MIKELL - REGISTER

SUPER CHIC: Modern Area Space is a furniture store in Greensboro's downtown area that tries to bring major city style and lighting to local homes.

Know a cool local business worth doing a feature on or a spot every Aggie should know about?

LET US KNOW!

Tell us who they are and what they sell and hopefully we can get the word out to the masses!

register@ncat.edu

Federal rates still falling

BY JEANNINE AVERSA
AP ECONOMICS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Individuals and businesses are likely to see their borrowing costs drop further as the Federal Reserve weighs another interest-rate reduction to bolster a sagging economy.

Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues opened a two-day meeting Tuesday afternoon to plot their next move on interest rates. The closed-door gathering comes amid growing fears the country is either on the brink of a recession or has already started slipping into one given the strains from a housing market collapse, a global credit crunch and turbulence on Wall Street. The country's last recession was in 2001.

Many economists believe the Fed will lower its key rate, now at 3.5 percent, by as much as one-half percentage point to 3 percent when policymakers wrap up their meeting Wednesday afternoon.

If that scenario plays out, commercial banks would be expected to lower their prime lending rate by a corresponding amount — from 6.5 percent to 6 percent.

The prime rate applies to certain credit cards, home equity

lines of credit and other loans. Should all this happen, then both the Fed's key rate and the prime rate would be at nearly three-year lows.

In an emergency gathering convened by Bernanke last week, the Fed ordered a rare, three-quarter-point reduction to its key rate. That move came after stocks worldwide plummeted, intensifying recession fears. The Fed's action has helped to restore some confidence among skittish investors. However, financial markets remain fragile.

"My feeling is if they don't cut by a half point, they risk undoing the good they did last week with the three-quarter point cut," said Mark Vitner, economist at Wachovia.

The Fed's rate-cutting campaign, which started in September, is not only aimed at energizing the economy but also providing a psychological boost to investors and consumers, whose spending is vital to the economy's well-being.

Consumer confidence fell sharply in January, the Conference Board reported Tuesday. The survey, however, was taken before the Fed's bold rate cut last week and before the White House and House leaders announced a joint agreement on an economic stimulus package

including tax rebates for people and some tax breaks for business.

The big worry is that consumers will clamp down on spending and businesses will put a lid on capital spending and hiring, throwing the economy into a tailspin.

In an ongoing effort to provide relief to cash-strapped financial institutions, the Fed said Tuesday it had auctioned another \$30 billion to commercial banks at an interest rate of 3.123 percent. Through the Fed's four auctions thus far, a total of \$100 billion in short-term loans has been made available to banks. The first Fed auction of this kind was conducted in December.

Other economic news released Tuesday showed that factories saw demand for their products rise in December by the largest amount in five months. That, however, didn't change the broader picture of a weakening economy.

Many economists believe the economy grew at a feeble 1.2 percent pace during the final three months of last year. That would mark a big loss of momentum from the prior quarter's brisk 4.9 percent growth rate. The government releases its estimate of fourth-quarter economic growth Wednesday.

Antitrust oversight of Microsoft extended to 2009

BY CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
AP BUSINESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal oversight of Microsoft Corp.'s market power, which began in 2002 after a landmark antitrust settlement, has been extended by 18 months.

The court's ruling "should not be viewed as a sanction against Microsoft," U.S. District Court Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly said late Tuesday.

She said her decision was based on delays by Microsoft in filing technical documents related to the licensing of its software.

Ten states, led by New York and California, urged the court last year to extend its oversight until 2012. The Bush administration did not join the states'



request. The Justice Department said Microsoft had complied with the settlement and it should be allowed to expire.

Microsoft's shares fell 8 cents to \$32.52 in after-hours trading, after dropping 12 cents to close at \$32.60.

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Refund checks just part of larger problem

As I searched the University website for information related to refund checks, I came across a PDF document that was very disturbing.

It stated that students with direct deposit would not receive their refunds until February 1, 2008 and students without direct deposit would receive their funds on February 8, 2008.

After checking with other students from UNC System schools, such as UNC Greensboro, N.C. Central, Appalachian State and Winston-Salem State, I was informed that either they received their funds prior to returning for the spring semester, would be receiving their funds the first day of class or no later than one week from the last day for drop add.

So the question came to mind, why must AGGIES wait so long?

After speaking with several students on campus, it came to my attention that this refund issue was having a major impact on students' basic living needs as well as their education at our esteemed university.

Less than a month ago, I decided to join the Facebook community. Students at A&T seem to live on and by



D. ANTOINE LILLY

Facebook, so on January 11, 2008 I chose to create a group called "The NC A&T Refund Check Uprising".

The purpose of this group was to give students an opportunity to voice their concerns and to come together as a unified body so that we could express our feelings to the administration of the University.

After the group was created, I added Marcus Bass, Vice President of External Affairs for SGA as my Facebook friend and the movement began. What started off as a two person group on Friday, has turned into 844 (and still growing) AGGIE Facebook students crying out for help and most of all CHANGE!

People ask me; why are we all fired up about refund checks? How do refund checks really affect the operation of the University and the student body?

Well, after reading some of the wall postings of the group, this issue has a

direct impact on the issues that plague our university. There are three major issues that I've compiled that are directly affected by the late distribution of funds to students in need.

Issue 1: Academics

The purpose of being in college is to gain further knowledge that will prepare us for our future. Currently, there are students who are attending classes, but don't have the appropriate books they need.

Some professors have books that can be purchased in the University Bookstore (at a very high markup price), while others have supplementary materials that need to be purchased either online or at other book stores.

Book vouchers would be a great concept in theory, if the bookstore carried ALL of the necessary books that students needed and had enough books in stock.

Since both situations don't exist right now, how are students expected to obtain books from other vendors, when they don't have the necessary funds to pay for them? If students don't receive their refunds until Feb. 1, then you are asking them to attend a class (if the professor lets them in), complete

assignments, and prepare for examinations for 4 weeks without the basic necessity, a book.

Issue 2: Recruitment

Word of mouth is the best or worst form of advertisement. People who enjoy a product or service will gladly recommend it to friends and family.

At the same time, negative experiences can also result in people refusing to refer others or warning others about their bad experiences. Several students at NC A&T don't have a very high opinion of the service that they have received.

When potential students or parents inquire about the University, what type of feedback do you think they are getting?

Issue 3: Retention

The term retention is defined as the act of retaining something (<http://wordnet.princeton.edu/perl/webwn?s=retention>). In the business world, we are taught that a happy customer will return. Customer service and satisfaction are key factors that bring repeat business to restaurants and retail stores.

In the case of A&T, the customers are the students and the business is the

University. What I have learned from creating this group is that there are a lot of unhappy customers that are receiving sub-par customer service. Everyone will not be pleased all the time, but if you are getting the same complaint over and over, its time for a CHANGE to be made.

So, the purpose of this Facebook group is not only about getting refund checks in a timely fashion, but to also form a group of agents advocating for change.

We are calling for 1,100 students to come together as one collective voice and speak loud enough that the administration will hear our concerns. 1,100 students represent roughly 1/10th of the entire student body that are enrolled at A&T. If we reach this goal of 1,100, we will call ourselves "The AGGIE 10th", agents for change, reformation, and one unified voice.

I am only one voice by myself, but when united with other AGGIES, my voice becomes amplified and people will listen. If you have not joined yet, go to Facebook and search for the group "The NC A&T Refund Check Uprising" and join up. Let your voice be heard.

Where are our great debaters?

BY ALEXANDRIA HARPER
THE A&T REGISTER

The Great Debaters, which opened on Christmas day, brought back the spirit of debate.

Movigoers were won over with applause as Wiley College of Marshall, Texas became triumphant over Harvard University.

This event changed the course of history but more importantly rejuvenated young minds in the power of spoken word. A&T students are now pumped to discuss issues that are effecting our generation. Public policy, entertainment, and even presidential debates are the swarming buzz around campus. There is only one problem.

A&T does not have a debate team. What this means is argumentation and discussion is left resting in the classroom. Friends argue with friends but the end result is often name calling and or bickering.

Organized arguments which are fact based are rarely achieved without the emergence of a debate team. A & T like Wiley College has a student body filled with intellectual and pas-

sionate individuals.

The best example of this is found in Dr. Myra Shird's 401 Argumentation and Debate class. On a normal day students engage in debates before class if officially slated to begin. The eagerness for expression is a pre-requisite to this course.

Bryan Fingers a junior majoring in English is a student in the class. He said "students need to be educated about the difference between arguing and fussing. To bring enlightenment all must be informed".

This statement is shared by others in the class who feel cheated by not having a debate team. "We fund political candidates and do not have a team that represents what we want to ask", said Quay Quick a senior speech communication major.

A cry among students to organize a debate team has much enthusiasm but is the faculty ready to wipe the tears away?

I meet with Dr. Shird after class to ask her opinion in an effort to gain a pulse reading on the faculty. She said "the Political Science department and the Honors programs are voiced supporters in getting a team started. Mock debates are

already held in these areas."

In her opinion the support already exist the problem is merely financial. "Funding is the biggest challenge; if we want to take communication to the next level money will have to be raised".

Students must also show their dedication by putting pressure on the University. Bryle H. Hatch a senior speech communication major believes "a university of this size with such strong academic departments and no debate team is a shame".

He said we must not forget that "A&T had such a huge role in the civil rights movement with the sit-ins started by the Greensboro four. Our political presents still stand strong today".

In the heat of debate, James Farmer Jr. a character in the movie Great Debaters made this statement. "We do what we have to do in order to do what we want". This quote seems basic because its implications are straightforward.

A&T students must act now and follow the motto recited in the Great Debaters. Otherwise our voices will be lost in the mere hope of creating a debate team.

REMEMBERING RONALD McNAIR

BY LEROY MIKELL
THE A&T REGISTER

"Before you can make a dream come true, you must first have one."
— Dr. Ronald E McNair.

On January 28, 1986 a distinguished A&T alumni passed away. Dr. Ronald E McNair epitomized the phrase AGGIE PRIDE.

He had dreams and shot for the stars. He was a NASA astronaut logged 191 hours in space and was posthumously awarded the congressional Space Medal of Honor.

It is only right to honor this great man. McNair was born in Lake City, S.C. on October 21, 1950 and did more in his 36 years of life than some could do in two lifetimes.

After graduating from Carver High School, McNair made his way to Aggiland receiving his degree in physics from A&T in 1971, and a Ph.D. in Physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1977. He was also honored with honorary doctorates in 1978, 1980 and 1984.

A fifth degree black belt, member of Omega Psi Phi, saxophone player, boxer, football player, and cook. McNair lived his life to the fullest.

His presence on this campus was a blessing and the Aggies that are coming up in the gigantic footprint he left behind should realize the possibilities available to them and strive to make things happen for themselves.

McNair will never be forgotten and uplifted during this time of the reflection. He made his own dreams come true and set an example that is a beacon to every student that enrolls with the hope of making a difference in the world.



Ronald McNair was the husband of life Cheryl and father of two children. A&T owes part of its legacy to McNair.

Today his legacy lives on through the Dr. Ronald E. McNair Foundation ran by his brother Carl, which works to dedicated to developing and implementing educational programs that motivate and encourage students to pursue careers in Science, Mathematics and Technology.

Carl travels the country to tell the story of his brother, who died when the Challenger Space Shuttle exploded just a minute into its flight. With speaking engagements at Georgia State, Florida A&M and Alabama in the coming months.

The McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program, which is on 179 campuses na-

tionwide.

That program awards research money and internships to first-generation and otherwise underrepresented students in preparation for graduate work.

Grade schools bearing his name exist in South Carolina, New Jersey, Maryland, Georgia, Missouri, Texas, Florida, and California.

He also has his name on university schools of study, planetariums and even a crater on the moon and of course McNair Hall on the campus of A&T which houses our engineering program.

He raised the standard on what it means to excel and he made the HBCU education legitimate in the eyes of many. We will keep him in our hearts and minds forever.

You know what grinds my gears...

BY DANIELLE D. BROWN
THE A&T REGISTER

Hey Aggies, I've been at this wonderful institution of higher learning for a whole semester, yes a semester (take that super seniors!), and already I've composed a list of things that really irk me, annoy me, get on my nerves, or GRIND MY GEARS. And do you know what really grinds my gears--the eggs from a box in the café.

You all may, or may not know what I'm referring to. This may be a result of not going to the café for breakfast, not eating omelets, or just not paying attention.

Whichever the case, I'm going to explain what I'm talking about and how it came to grind my gears. It took me a few weeks at A&T before I ever got around to getting up early enough to eat breakfast in Williams Cafeteria.

Well, one morning in early October, I did. I got myself a cheese omelet and a waffle. I noticed the omelet lady scoop-

ing the eggs out of one of those silver stock pots. I dismissed it, reasoning that to save time, they crack all of the eggs at the beginning of the day and that's why they scoop the eggs. I should've known that this wasn't true since eggs usually don't scoop like the yellow soup-like substance in the café, but I've had more than my share of blonde moments and for that one you can just call me Marilyn.

Well the next visit, I was lazily waiting in line for my cheese omelet when they ran out of eggs. I guessed she would have someone bring her another pot of eggs...nope. Someone brought her a cardboard box! And inside of the box was a plastic bag holding egg substitute! Not even real eggs people, eggs substitute.

Ever since then I've boycotted the omelets, if you can call them that, from the café. It really grinds my gears too, because I'm a breakfast person. I look forward to fluffy waffles, crispy edged pancakes, savory

maple smoked bacon, and I even look forward to cereal. But why A&T?

Why would you mess up an American breakfast staple, like the omelet? What did I ever do to you? All I ever did was love you (I stole that from an episode of Full House).

A&T, what's the problem? Our thousands of dollars worth of tuition doesn't cover real eggs for omelets or something? Eggs cost like, what, \$3.00? And that's not even Sam's club, bulk prices. You all can't splurge a little on real eggs?


And you can't say you don't have access to real eggs, because every so often you'll have boiled eggs in the café, that hardly anyone eats, sitting out taking up space. It would make everyone happier if you crack those eggs open and made a real omelet.

Now, I'm not digging at the café staff, I'm just speaking my mind on something that really bothers me, and grinds my gears.



**STOP TALKING ABOUT IT...
AND WRITE ABOUT IT!**

Send us your questions, comments,
concerns and opinions to
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Fox hopes to beat Superbowl ratings

BY DAVID BAUDER
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP) — The undefeated New England Patriots aren't taking the only shot at history this weekend. There's a strong chance that this could be the most-watched Super Bowl ever.

The record Fox will be shooting for is the 94.08 million viewers who watched the Dallas Cowboys beat the Pittsburgh Steelers in January 1996, according to Nielsen Media Research. Last year's victory by the Indianapolis Colts came closest with 93.2 million.

The biggest draw is the Patriots themselves, as they attempt to become the first undefeated NFL team since the 1972 Dolphins — and secure near-unanimous acclaim as the best pro football team ever.

"This has a very good chance," said Brad Adgate, research chief for the Madison Avenue firm Horizon Media.

While the Patriots' quest for history will be the focus, they must beat the New York Giants, who represent the biggest television market in the country. The Giants' underdog run to the Super Bowl has captivated its fan base, and the NFC championship victory over the Green Bay Packers had the biggest audience for that game since 1995, according to Nielsen Media Research.

There's also the fresh memory of the thrilling game the Giants and Patriots played on the last night of the regular season, where New England had to come from behind to keep their unbeaten streak alive. That game was seen by 34.5 million people, the most-watched NFL regular season game since 1990.

Fox says that setting a record is possible. "There are a lot of factors that go into a huge number like this," said Bill Wanger, research chief for Fox sports. "Having the number one market isn't necessarily a lock."

Actually, TV networks prefer a contest with a bit more geographic diversity — a West Coast team playing an East Coast team, instead of two teams from the Northeast.

The biggest factor in keeping viewers tuned in is the competitiveness of the game. A rout is generally bad news, although recent history is on Fox's side. After a run of lackluster Super Bowl games, this decade has seen some good ones. The playoffs' leading up to the Super Bowl, capped by the Giants' overtime victory over Green Bay, also bode well.

The best thing for Fox is a close game with the Giants leading, but the Patriots still with a chance at the end.

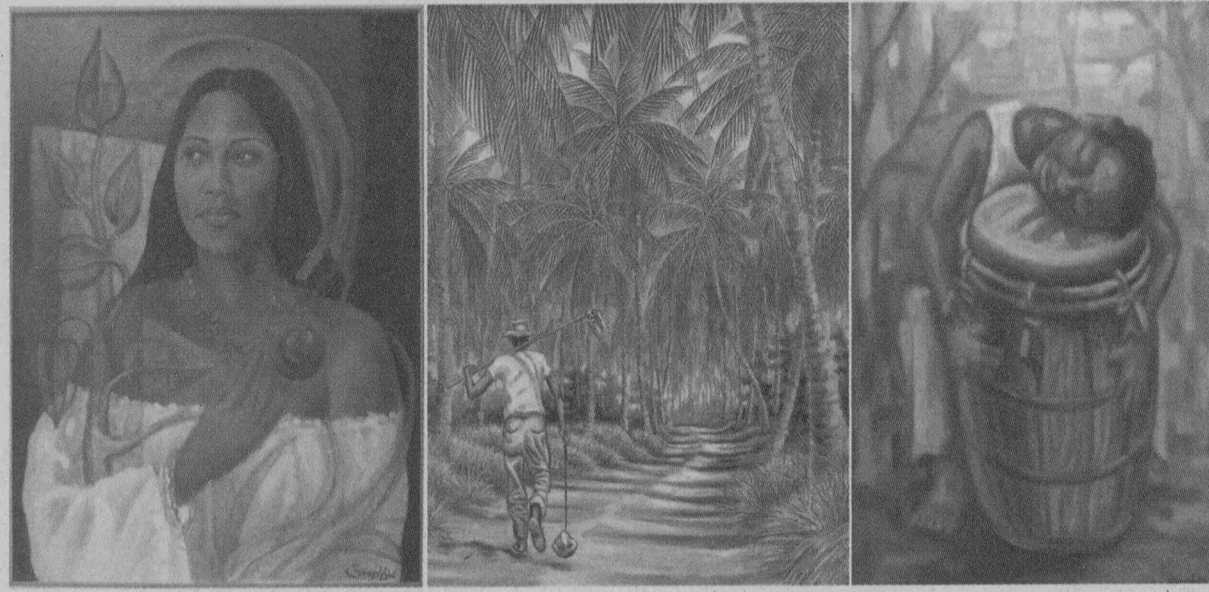
The element of history might keep viewers tuned in even if the Patriots are blowing out the Giants, although the big victory margins the team was racking up early in the year have diminished.

"If New England blows out the Giants, this may be one time when ratings late in the game will not decline," said Steve Sternberg, ratings expert for the ad-buying firm Magna Global. "The only thing that might prevent near-record ratings is if the Giants blow out the Patriots. But even that might keep viewers tuned in."

Other, esoteric factors might help, too. Bad weather across the country could keep people in front of their TVs, in case they were tempted to do something else.

The Hollywood writers strike might leave viewers a little more starved than usual for something good to watch, Adgate said.

The Super Bowl is the most popular television event of the year. This year's game will almost certainly fail to match the most popular television event of all time, the 1983 finale of the TV series "M-A-S-H," which drew an estimated 125 million people.



SAMUEL LIND'S PIECES: From the Left: 'Yuiza' Center: Samuel Lind Road, Right: untitled

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Samuel Lind showcases his art

BY ASHLEY WITHERS
THE A&T REGISTER

It was a full house Saturday evening at A&T as faculty, students and residents gathered in Dudley Building to recognize the 2008 opening season of the University Galleries.

Greensboro Mayor Yvonne Johnson brought greetings and recognized the university's visual arts department.

The night began with the E.Gwynn Dancers performing the Bomba, a rich, expressive African dance native to Puerto Rico.

The focus of the night was art. Samuel Lind is a Puerto Rican artist who exemplifies the culture and lifestyle of his hometown, Loiza. Loiza is one of the towns in Puerto Rico that is mostly populated by blacks.

"I lived in surrounding by beautiful nature and cultural scenes," Lind said. "I couldn't avoid that."

Through his paintings and sculptures, he easily transports people into his world, taking them

to Loiza.

Lind realized he had a passion for art a young age. "I started to feel serious about my art when I was a teenager. The teachers would encourage me to do work for local activities. Since they were asking me to do these works, I then began to feel like an artist."

Many of Lind's paintings and sculptures reflect the history and tradition of his Loiza. One painting in particular, "Yuiza," a detailed painting of a woman, caught the eye of many.

She was the chiefess of Loiza and was known as a hero and legend in Puerto Rico. Lind painted this woman to express that she was more than just a name.

"I found an image of a person in the past, that I wanted to become known in the present and future. [In this picture] she wants to say something. Her face shows all the expression that she is trying to explain something."

When asked which painting was her favorite, Awilda Feliciano, a Greensboro resident, said, "Yuiza."

"I am Puerto Rican and when I see

that picture, it makes me feel like I'm home. I recently took my daughter to Puerto Rico and she kept saying how all the women looked alike. Seeing this picture makes me feel warm. I even think she kinda looks like me."

Lind believes that each artist is trying to convey a message through his or her work.

"The message is that art has a mission, a mission to first represent who you are, then your country, and then the world," he said.

The visual arts department at A&T helped make this event happen. Maria Sanchez, the executive director of the Hispanic Arts in Winston Salem helped publicize this event to Greensboro's Latino community. She said she wanted to bring a positive aspect of the Latino culture.

The exhibit runs through March 8 and is free to the community. The University Galleries are in the Dudley Building and their hours are Tuesdays through Fridays 10 to 5 and Saturdays 1 to 5. For information, call (336) 334-3209.



RIP THE RUNWAY: Models strut the runway to outfits designed by the students in each modeling troupe.

PHOTOS BY MICHAELA EDWARDS • REGISTER

BATTLE OF I-40 HITS THE RUNWAY

BY ALEXANDRIA HARPER
THE A&T REGISTER

On Friday, January 25, A&T squared off against Winston-Salem State University in a fashion show.

It was the third annual Aggie-Ram battle commenced at the KR Williams Auditorium on WSSU campus. The featured participants from A&T were Couture Productions (encompassing both the Modeling and Dance Troupes) and DJ E-Sudd. On the Ram's side were T.I.M. Dance Troupe, Epiphany Modeling Troupe and DJ Cuttz. The result of all three competitors determined this year's winner.

First up was a performance by Ricky Ruckus. The rapper and his five-man entourage slowly brought viewers to their feet with their inherent confidence and swagger.

Next up was A&T's own Couture Dance Troupe. The ladies of Couture Dance ended up setting the tone for the rest of the night. Displaying their limber abilities and perfected hip movements. These divas of Couture

never missed a beat.

Nick Snow, a dance member of Couture, majoring in political science said, "The theme was inspired by Janet Jackson's All Night Long video".

After the ladies the men came onstage to Snoop Dogg's "Sexual Seduction".

"We practiced a week and a half to ensure a strong leading up to the event. The choreographers even spent two hours before practice going over the steps," said Marcus Cobb, a senior, majoring in fashion merchandise.

Going against Couture Dance was T.I.M. Dance Troupe. The men of T.I.M. Dance started their show wearing all red and black.

To end their show the song "Drive you Crazy" was playing from the DJ speakers. Timing problems prevented T.I.M. Dance Troupe from coming out victoriously.

After the judges tallied the results, scores weighted in at 130 for T.I.M. Dance and to Couture Dance 220 points.

The models were soon ready to strut the runway.

A&T's Couture Modeling Troupe performed first. Wearing bright yellow and orange swimsuits, the women of Couture Modeling commanded attention.

"The theme was to resemble a circus", said Robert Matthews a sophomore from Couture.

The men then came on stage next sporting black pants with iron pumped abs, it was a definite eye candy for all the ladies in the audience.

Epiphany Modeling Troupe aimed towards showing up Couture with their "Sin City" theme. Kanye West's "Drunk and Hot Girls" played in the background but an accidental slip by one of the group members cost Epiphany the first place.

After the judges deliberated, the score added up to being 148 points for Epiphany and 169 points for Couture Modeling.

A&T took home the trophy with a score of 534 points with WSSU only having 459 points.

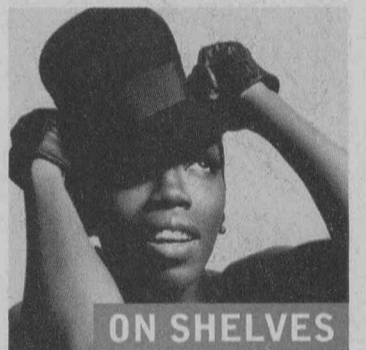
Jan. 30th- Feb. th

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



ON SCREEN

THE EYE premieres in theaters everywhere. The movie is about a girl named Sydney Wells (Jessica Alba) who has been given the gift of sight, but it comes with a horrifying price in the English-language remake of Danny and Oxide Pang's *The Eye*.



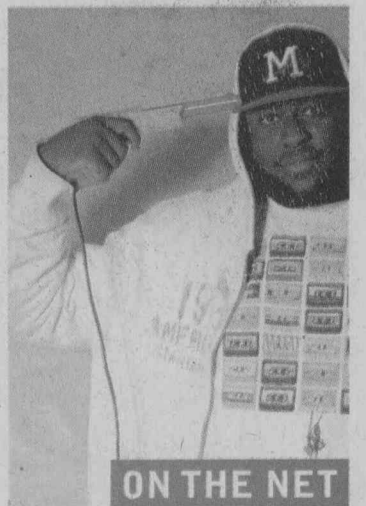
ON SHELVES

ESTELLE'S new album "Shine" hits shelves in February. Also, stay tuned for her single feat. Kanye West "American Boy." This London singer has more than just a british accent, dazzling looks, and bright smile. She brings a new-age soul to every R&B track.



ON CAMPUS

PHILADANCO PERFORMS Feb 5th at Harrison Auditorium. The Philadelphia Dance Company brings their high energy and soulful performances to A&T and the community. This event is on a Tuesday from 7:30pm to 10pm. A fun-filled event for students and families across the triad.



ON THE NET

NCATREGISTER.COM ITS KIND OF LIKE HBO ON DEMAND EXCEPT ITS WRITTEN BY STUDENTS AND WE DON'T CURSE OR WILD OUT ON THURSDAY NIGHTS AFTER 11 PM. YOU CAN CHECK OUT PODCASTS, SHARE YOUR COMMENTS AND OPINIONS ON THE LATEST CAMPUS NEWS, PLUS SEE EXCLUSIVE WEB EXTRAS WE COULDN'T FIT IN THE PAPER.

Be a part of
theSCENE
Contributors meetings
every Wednesday at
5 p.m. in NCB 328A

20 QUESTIONS

- Anybody else ending their relationship before February 14th?
- Having a winter girlfriend was wack anyway, right?
- Don't you wish you could cheer for the football team like you cheer for the basketball team?
- Why are people getting fly for Wing Night?
- They do realize that it's still the cafeteria?
- Did anyone spend their refund checks on books?
- Is the Feb. 1st breakfast at 6 a.m. so they can limit the free meals?
- Has anybody noticed the Village has a new name?
- Don't you hate it when strangers talk to you in the elevator?
- Isn't it even worse when they ask you open ended questions?
- Am I really supposed to explain my views on the world to you in a 15 second ride?
- Should any grown man have baby hair?
- Anybody else ever feel bad for the big dude in *Dru Hill*?
- So, what's the difference between Verge and Couture again?
- Does anybody remember recording off the radio?
- Why are mixtapes still called mixTAPES?
- Whose pops still wears creases in their jeans?
- Anybody else have class with a campus security guard?
- Did you notice how wack 20 questions was last week?
- Have you ever tried to be funny at 5:30 in the morning on a weeknight?