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THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA A&T

Homecoming tickets on sale early this year

JASMINE JOHNSON
News Editor

For yet another year, A&T students, administration and alumni prepare for what has been deemed the "Greatest Homecoming on Earth."

Students began to line up at the ticket office starting at 8 a.m. Friday, Aug. 21st.

The Student Government Association worked on getting ticket sales as early as possible. In a record time, homecoming tickets were available for purchase during the first week of school.

"Tickets went on sale so early for Homecoming 2009 because the majority of everything we were planning on, from the concert to the gospel show to the concert were already locked down," said SGA Vice President of External Affairs Travis Jackson, a sophomore public relations major from Charlotte, N.C. "Also students were getting their refund checks, so that's the time they had money."

The events lined up include the gospel, comedy and step shows, as well as the concert and football game.

The gospel show on Oct. 27th will possibly feature Donald Lawrence and Co. or James Fortune at 6 p.m. in Harrison Auditorium.

Tickets for the gospel show will vary from \$5 for A&T students to \$7 for others.

The comedy show will feature "The Double Trouble Comedy Show" with Amez J. Kevin Hart and special guest Leslie. There are a limited amount of \$10 tickets available for A&T students, however after those are sold, tickets will be \$15.

"I am very excited about the comedy show," said Jeanette Dalton, a freshman theater major from Greensboro. "Kevin Hart is hilarious and I am ready to roll."

The step show will take place on Oct. 30th at 7 p.m. at Greensboro Coliseum.

Tickets prices for the step show include \$12.50 for all students and \$17.50 for the general public.

The next day at 1:30 p.m. the Aggie Football team will take on Bethune-Cookman at Aggie Stadium.

A&T students will not have to pay ticket prices with a valid Aggie One Card, however the general public tickets run \$35.

There are reserved tickets available for \$40 and \$20 for students of other universities and high schools; tickets for children 12 and under are \$15.

Last, but not least the concert will feature the "Swag City Tour" with FLY, GS Boys, Mario, Fabolous, Trey

▶ See **HOMECOMING** on Page 2

CAMPUS NOTEBOOK

STUDENTS & HEALTHCARE REFORM

As the debate over healthcare heats up on Capitol Hill, Aggies find themselves asking how it affects them and why they should care

ALESSANDRA BROWN
Register Reporter

President Obama has wasted no time advocating for a plan to restructure the current health care system in America.

According to healthreform.gov, this is a comprehensive plan aimed to present coverage to those who could not previously afford it, bring down the costs of health care, improve upon current systems like Medicaid, and protect American citizens by ensuring that insurance companies are more accountable in order to avoid discrimination.

Though the president is trying to make the details of such a significant policy change transparent to the public, his administration is facing great scrutiny from all directions.

According to advocates for this proposed policy, it is attempting to balance the needs of the uninsured with the steady concerns of the millions of Americans who already have insurance plans.

Objectively, this new policy claims to offer better quality health care, more access, and a guarantee of affordability.

Yet the debate over this proposed plan is dominating newsrooms, websites, and the daily conversations of the American people. Town hall style meetings of citizens and their representatives are being held all over the country.

Many of these discussions have turned into shouting matches often lacking diplomacy, respect, and full knowledge of the facts, adding to the anxiety many people may feel over reform.

People are concerned about the details of health coverage.

The health care needs of Americans between the ages of 50 and 64 are growing. Many are worried about not having proper care and increased costs for medications that accompany the ailments of aging.

As such, there is a large number of Americans who are opposed to the proposed health care reform.

Amidst these arguments the voices of young people

over health care reform are either nonexistent or being drowned out. The evidence of this lack of concern and knowledge is present right here at North Carolina A&T.

When one student was asked about his thoughts on health care reform he replied, "I don't even have personal insurance ... why should I be concerned?"

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates the number of people uninsured in this country to be 46 million. Of these 46 million people about 30 percent are Americans between the ages of 18 and 34.

Considering this, it would seem that the level of concern among young people would be greater.

However, many students are not fully informed, or concerned about healthcare reform.

"I know nothing about that, not even in my interest ... I think there are better people out here in the world to take interest in that than me," senior Trey Flythe said.

The nonexistent presence of young people in this debate over health care reform and insurance may cause the effects of other people's decisions to rest on their shoulders in the coming years.

Yet, having quality health coverage helps to effectively and efficiently handle emergency situations, and to lower prescription and service costs. North Carolina A&T, as mandated by the state in 2006, requires that all students either have insurance through the school or verify that they have personal plans.

Through the school insurance policy, at the cost of \$283.50 for a semester plan, students have access to \$750 for outpatient prescription drugs and \$300 for general wellness coverage, all without deductibles or copays.

Janet Lattimore, the Health Educator for the university, has been working at A&T for 20 years. She deals with students on informing them about plan options and general health education. According to Lattimore

▶ See **HEALTHCARE** on Page 2

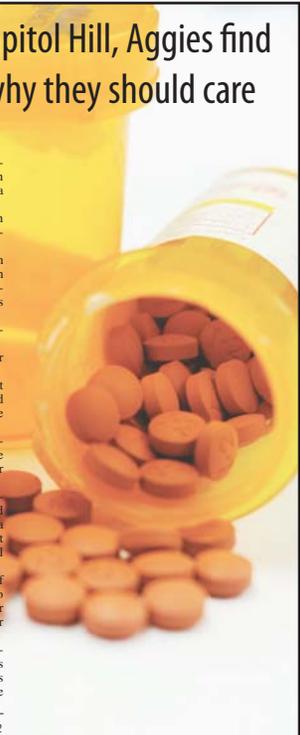


PHOTO BY KENNETH HAWKINS - THE A&T REGISTER

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS are just one of several things that the student healthcare plan on campus will help students cover. With the proposed changes to the nation's healthcare, students and citizens are waiting to see what will happen to their healthcare.

SGA Senate filled with vacancies, strategies for a stronger campus impact

LaRIA LAND
Register Reporter

In years past, the Student Government Association Student Senate has worked to ensure a quality academic and social environment for its student population.

The 42nd Legislative Assembly aims to become even more effective by empowering the student body, especially in regards to their constitutional rights.

As stated in the Constitution, the Student Senate is the official law-making body for the campus of North Carolina A&T and is composed of elected student body representatives, which single handedly allows it to be the most powerful entity of student government.

Authorized in the Constitution, SGA is granted the ability to "assist the faculty and administrative officers in the

development of programs and policies in matters affecting academic question, student discipline and the general welfare of the A&T Community."

By doing so, the Chancellor and University's Board of Trustees have committed to working with the Student Senate so that all legislation and amendments positively reflect the needs of the university.

"The Senate has the ability to write things into existence, forever leaving a positive mark," said Vice President of Internal Affairs, Valerie Dudley.

Because of that direct handle on change, Dudley feels the Senate can successfully improve prominent student concerns such as more money for financial aid, the quality of professors, the quality of food in the cafeteria, and the relationship with alumni so that students can obtain jobs after graduation.

To ensure a diverse mixture, Senators are derived from all academic disciplines and are housed in the district of his or her prospective school or college.

Each term is one academic school year, and he or she can serve no more than two years.

Senators are required to serve on one of 6 committees: finance, judicial and review, rules, ways and means, campus life, and academic affairs, preferably one that relates to their major.

A special committee can also be formed if a situation arises that does not fit within the boundaries of the established committees.

Both the full senate and the smaller committees convene during bi-monthly meetings on alternating weeks, meaning that senators meet at least once



PHOTO BY MICHAELA EDWARDS - THE A&T REGISTER

▶ See **VACANCIES** on Page 2

VACANT CHAMBER With the Student Senate almost empty, no official business can be conducted.

ONLINE THE CAMPUS CRIME MAP

Want to know where the crime is happening on campus? Check it out online.

www.ncatregister.com

theYARD COLLEGES PREP FOR SWINE FLU

Health Officials warn U.S. colleges to prepare for the flu season. All colleges have been designated "high risk" areas for H1N1.

PAGE 3

theWORD LONG DISTANCE BFF'S

Long distance relationships are one thing, but what do you do about a long distance friendship?

PAGE 6

theSCORE THE FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Aggies get ready to kick off the 2009 football with a new coach and strong gameplan.

PAGE 7

theSCENE BASTARDS CAN BE "GLOURIOUS"

The Register gives the new Quinten Tarantino Movie "Inglourious Basterds" a grade.

PAGE 8

WEATHER WEDNESDAY

High: 90°
Low: 66°

THURSDAY: Sunny | High 92°

FRIDAY: Mostly Sunny | High 81°

HOMECOMING From page 1

Songz, Keri Hilson, the Gucci Crew, Nikki Minaj, OJ Da Juiceman, Gucci Mane and surprise guests. It will take place Oct. 31st at the Greensboro Coliseum at 7:30 p.m. The first 1,000 students were able to purchase tickets for \$25; after those, tickets are sold to the 2nd 1,000 students at \$27. All tickets thereafter will be \$31.50, \$34.50 and \$39.50 the day of the show.

"We chose the homecoming concert lineup this year to cater to diversity. The strategy was to get somebody that everyone likes," said Jackson. "For instance, if someone doesn't like Gucci Mane, they can listen to Trey Songz."

The Vice President of Internal Affairs, Valerie Dudley, plans to attend every event at homecom-

ing this year.

"It's great [concert] how they integrated both Hip-hop and R&B," said Dudley, a junior Biology major. "It will really attract difference audiences, but everybody is still on one accord."

The Jasin administration is also working together with the University Police Department in order to ensure safety for students on campus during the events.

"Because so many events are on campus this year, we definitely creating a stronger bond with UPD so we can make sure our students are safe as they go about the campus during homecoming events," continued Dudley.

As of Tuesday evening, the ticket office has sold approximately 35 homecoming Gospel tickets, 300 comedy show tickets and around 1200 tickets for the concert.

theBLOTTER

Arrest

August 20, 5:00 a.m.

Price Hall
On 8/20 at 5 a.m., a female student/resident was arrested on an outstanding warrant for failure to appear. The student was transported to the Guilford County Jail and placed under a \$1000.00 secured bond.

Vehicle Fire

August 20, 8:51 a.m.

Drew Drive
On 8/20 at 8:51 a.m., a female non-resident student's vehicle engine caught on fire while she was driving. The Greensboro Fire Department was called out to extinguish the fire. Estimated value of damaging to the vehicle is \$3000.00. There were no injuries.

Larceny

August 20, 2:35 a.m.

Pride Hall
On 8/20 at 2:35 a.m., a female non-resident student reported that several clothing items were taken from the 1st floor laundry room. There are no known suspects at this time. Estimated value of the property is \$250.00. Case remains open at this time.

DWI

August 22, 2:45 a.m.

Sullivan St.
On 8/22 at 02:45 a.m., a non student female was arrested for Driving While Impaired. She was transported to the Guilford County Jail & given a written promise to appear without

incident.

Hit and Run

August 22, 7:50 a.m.

Aggie Suites
On 8/22 at 7:50 p.m., a female resident student reported that an unknown vehicle struck her vehicle while it was parked in Aggie Suites Parking Lot. The estimated damage to the vehicle is \$400.00.

Arrest

August 23, 12:02 a.m.

Moore Gym
On 8/23 at 12:02 a.m., a male student was arrested on outstanding felony warrants from UPD. He was transported to Guilford County Jail & given a \$2500.00 secured bond without incident.

HEALTHCARE From page 1

there are benefits of having A&T's insurance.

"The student insurance plan is like a standard insurance plan," states Lattimore. "If you have the school plan you can come in and see the physician, get any lab tests you might need, and pharmaceutical care, all covered, but if you have to go outside of the health center plan you run into needing to pay deductibles."

"Right now we only take school insurance, but that doesn't mean that we can't see that student if just means that the student has to pay out of pocket, the key thought is to have insurance ...

Students are generally well informed about whether they have insurance or not, but what all is covered, probably not because they do not take the time to read or rely on their parents," said Lattimore.

Darnetta Mack, the Student Insurance Coordinator for A&T, shares her sentiments.

"It's just an adult thing to do. If you have coverage you should be responsible enough to first investigate and see what is and what is not covered by your plan. At least pick up the brochures and read it so that you can be informed of what is available to you."

If students have questions or concerns about insurance options they can go to Sebastian

during the new hours of 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., weekdays only. The information is also available online, in the registrar, the library, and other various locations on campus.

Being informed about health care, whether it pertains to insurance, benefits, or reform is vital to understanding policies that affect all Americans lives. If passed, the national health care reform policy will affect students, their parents, siblings, and their future children. Perhaps if students begin being concerned with health insurance on campus, learn what health care is, and what reform may mean for their futures, many may discover that there is a reason to care about health care.

Getting it RIGHT

In the Freshman Survival Guide and last weeks issue, The James C. Rennie School of Education is incorrect on the map. The proper name is the

School of Education. The map was taken from the University Web site. We regret the error.

inFOCUS



PHOTO BY MICHAELA EDWARDS - THE A&T REGISTER

Skee-Weel Bree Pelham, Senior Civil Engineer Major, participated in the Welcome Back Cook Out on Friday at the annual showcase stepshow.

Senate vacancies hold up progress in SGA

VACANCIES From page 1

a week.

Unfortunately, whatever plans Dudley and the eight spring-elected senators may have on their personal agendas, as of now, are placed on hold until after fall elections, as there are still 40 seats open and the Constitution states the Senate cannot assemble until each seat is filled.

Because of this setback, the Senate Oath and the training sessions will not occur until sometime in October.

The Senate has an overall lack of visibility on campus. "[Students] don't know what senate is, what it does, or what its benefits are because in the past [the Senators] have not put themselves out there to be seen, [as well] as their accomplishments have not been known," says Dudley.

The 41st Legislature, for example, was described as "a large group of quality people with a good vision under ex-

Jones. However, the bill progressed their attention left."

"I do not believe the Senate has lost its power, but instead it has not been [fully] utilized," says Mitchell Brown, Senator for Business and Eco-

"No one understands what it does or how great a leadership opportunity it can be, so until Senate does something to get the students buy-

cited, the students will not show up to take part."

In addition, the

some type of reform among the Senators themselves.

In order to become effective, according to Raymond Beamon, former Senator for District 1 (College of Arts and Sciences), each Senator needs to proceed with "high expectations and no excuses" and work hard to have a "full, accurate understanding of the Constitution".

Fortunately, these are just the improvements expected to come during this current term.

"I plan to [advocate] visibility so the [students] can know who we are and see we are doing our job, accountability so the other senators can know the standards that they are to hold each other as well as themselves, and consistency because when we all are on the same page at the same time, we can successfully achieve the same goal," says Brown.

However, if needed, "the Senators will be encouraged to exercise their power of impeachment" says Dudley.

The goal is to move forward and if the weakest link is continuously holding something back, the link needs to be changed.

Hopefully those measurements do not need to be taken, and this year's Legislative Assembly will continue to keep the students in mind and do everything in their power to add to the success of the SGA.

The A&T Student Senate list of accomplishments includes the installation of Mr. A&T and the class kings, which was proposed three years ago during the Most Active Administration

internal Affairs Marvin Jones.

WEDNESDAY

26

Senior Council Roundtable for OSH & CM
Smith Hall
Multi-purpose Room
11:35 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

College Life
Webb Hall
Room 100 Auditorium
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Zeta Alpha present: Freshman Week
McNair Hall
Room 240 Auditorium & Lobby
7:20 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Mr. 1913 Try-outs
Memorial Student Union
Room 214
8:30p.m. - 10 p.m.

THURSDAY

20

SGA Presidential Address
Holland Bowl
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Aggie Interest Meeting
Memorial Student Union
Room 209
7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Drinking and Driving Awareness Program
Webb Hall
Room 100 Auditorium
7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

FRIDAY

21

Graduate Management Admissions Test Prep
Merrick Hall
Room 123
1 p.m. - 1:50 p.m.

Movie Night
New School of Education
Room 160 Auditorium
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

22

Football Fun Festival
Aggie Stadium Primary Tailgate Area
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

SUNDAY

23

Academic Empowerment Seminar
Memorial Student Union
Stallings Ballroom A
7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

MONDAY

23

Emmitt Till Auditions
Memorial Student Union
Stallings Ballroom, Section A
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

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Room 328

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THE A&T REGISTER

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From A&T to UNC: Aggieland and UNC Asheville start domestic exchange program

DEXTER R. MULLINS
Editor in Chief

Studying abroad is an enriching, rewarding, and expensive experience many students would love to participate in but are not able to, due to various reasons.

However, a new partnership between The University of North Carolina Asheville and North Carolina A&T will allow students to get the full study abroad experience right here in North Carolina.

Launching this fall, the NC A&T-UNC Asheville Exchange Program is a reciprocal exchange of students, whose purposes is to provide a culturally rich experience for participants and to increase the diversity of both of the institutions.

While both Universities have international study abroad programs, this opportunity will provide much needed exposure to different cultural experiences to numerous students who may not be able to afford the price tag with studying over seas.

The Multicultural Student Center at A&T and the International Center at UNC Asheville have collaborated to orchestrate this program.

"This will be an enriching opportunity for students to cross cultures, engage in a diverse environment and experience tremendous growth," Lee Morgan, Associate Director for Student Development said.

Allegra Johnson, Study Abroad Program Coordinator

for A&T's Office of International Programs, said that a student can participate in a bi-lateral exchange program, where the student can pay their A&T tuition price, and take their study abroad experience where the U.S. dollar is strong, like Mexico, Canada, or Ghana.

It tends to only cost more, Johnson said, when a student wants to study abroad in a country where the dollar is not as strong, like Australia or a European country.

Students that study abroad internationally also have to pay for their airfare and passports.

"A lot of it just depends on what the students are interested in doing," Johnson said. "Places like Turkey, Ghana and places where the cost of liv-

ing is lower is typically when the student can pay the same amount."

A&T students are always encouraged to broaden their horizons and explore different things to fully enhance their education, and for some students, coming to A&T was exactly that.

"All my life I have attended what I now understand to be majority white institutions and coming to A&T was a great experience for me," senior nursing student Roterra Brown said. Brown grew up and went to school in Virginia. "This program would be great for students who have only been exposed to predominantly black institutions."

Brown is not the only student

that sees the benefit in experiencing a different culture. Alvin Black, National Pan-Hellenic Council President and a member of Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc. strongly encourages students to get out of their comfort zone.

"Get outside of the microcosm of black culture and immerse yourself in a new culture, succeed in and out of the classroom," Black said.

"Don't allow your background to prevent you from this experience to expand your network, net worth and horizon."

UNC Asheville has often been known to offer one of the best public liberal arts educations in the country, with small class sizes and close contact with professors from freshman to

senior-level students.

It offers 33 different degree programs, and the option to design their own major. Psychology, management, environmental studies, literature, language and history are some of the most known programs at UNC Asheville.

"Students will enjoy a smaller campus with tremendous impact," Dr. Maria Palmer, Director of the Multicultural Student Center said. "They will gain confidence in their ability by succeeding in a new environment. Travel broadens and stretches an individual and exposes them to new experiences and ideas."

For students who want to get a different experience, but not journey too far from home, this



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Roomie matches made in cyberspace

MEGAN TWOHEY
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO—For Satit Koonpakarn, the gold dagger and book of chants were the first signs of trouble.

His freshman roommate at the University of Illinois at Chicago pulled out the items on move-in day, explaining that he was a Wiccan and liked to practice witchcraft. Months later, Koonpakarn said, he awoke during the night to find the roommate standing over his bed casting a spell.

"I was lying there thinking, 'Please God, don't let anything bad happen to me,'" Koonpakarn said with a chuckle.

Like most colleges with residence halls, U of I-Chicago makes an effort to pair first-year roommates who are compatible, often taking into consideration personality assessments and lifestyle questionnaires, among other factors. But some matches still result in disaster.

To minimize the horror stories, a small but growing number of schools are inserting online technology into the equation. They are setting up their own social networking sites, instructing students to create a profile and select a roommate for themselves — like Match.com for dorms.

Assigned roommates have already seized on Facebook and Myspace as a way to learn more about each other. Colleges field complaints from students, and their parents, seeking roommate changes even before the school year begins. Loyola University recently heard from the mother of a student who pulled up a photo of her roommate's house on Google Maps and deemed it too shabby.

While some schools are now trying to use the technology to their advantage, other schools are pushing forward with traditional matchmaking, insisting students need to branch out of

their comfort zones and experience diversity.

For the nearly 2.8 million freshmen heading off to college — one of the highest numbers in history — the roommate relationship may have the single greatest impact on their college experience, studies show. Students dissatisfied with their roommates are more likely to feel negative about college and suffer lower grade-point averages and retention rates.

"It can make or break a student," said Mike Schultz, director of university housing at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, who serves as president of the Association of College and University Housing Officers International.

"Some students will leave a university if they have a poor experience. I've also seen marginal students with great student relationships succeed with the extra support."

DePaul University had used a lifestyle questionnaire when matching freshmen roommates, striving to pair early birds with other early birds, self-confessed slobs with equally messy classmates, and smokers with those who shared the habit.

But eight years ago, the university scaled back the criteria, asking only which residence hall and type of room the student preferred, said Rick Moreci, director of housing services.

"When we asked more questions, the students were even more upset when we made a bad match," Moreci explained.

"With less factors at play, students don't have as much of a basis to complain."

Starting next year, the college will take its hands-off approach further, allowing freshmen to select their roommate through an online networking site created by a company called Lifetopia.

Lifetopia-designed sites allow students to post photos and details about their background and

interests, then shop around for compatible classmates.

Within the past several years, the company has signed contracts with more than a dozen colleges, including San Francisco State University.

The California school offers the Lifetopia network to students selecting roommates for off-campus housing and a similar in-house online networking program for those living in residence halls on campus.

"We've found that there's less conflict when the roommates select each other," said Philippe Cumia, the school's associate director for administrative services. "Giving them a choice gives them a greater stake in the relationship and making it work."

Even at schools without Lifetopia, some students are selecting their roommates through Facebook and Myspace.

This summer, Danielle Sterczek, 18, of Palatine, Ill., and Krysten Karns, 18, of Aledo, Ill., received random roommate assignments from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. But once they discovered each other's profiles days later on a group of incoming freshmen formed on Facebook, they successfully sought a swap.

Based on their profiles and online chats, it appeared they had a lot in common — including playing high school sports.

As long as everyone, including the original roommates, was in agreement, the college approved.

"But many colleges insist that by selecting roommates online, freshmen miss out on the valuable learning experience that comes from living with people of different backgrounds."

"The more diverse the mix, the more interesting the conversation, thoughts and experiences that will emerge," said Katie Callow-Wright, director of undergraduate housing at the University of Chicago.

Health officials tell colleges to prepare for swine flu's return

TONY PUGH
McClatchy Papers

WASHINGTON— Hoping to stop swine flu in its tracks this fall, U.S. health officials on Thursday advised university students, faculty and staff to "self-isolate" themselves in their dorm rooms or off-campus homes if they develop flu-like symptoms.

College students are a high-risk group for the 2009 H1N1 virus, which has spread to at least 168 countries after emerging in Mexico this spring. The latest data from the World Health Organization reports at least 182,166 confirmed cases and 1,799 deaths worldwide.

The new guidelines for colleges and universities issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, recommends that students and school employees not attend classes or come to work. During this time, they should also limit contact with other people, except to seek medical attention.

"They should ask a friend or a roommate to care for them by bringing them meals" and medication, said Education Secretary Arne Duncan.

These precautions should continue for at least 24 hours after the patient's temperature returns to normal or their fever breaks without the use of medication.

Duncan said students also should be vigilant about keeping commonly used items in their dorms and apartments clean, including doorknobs, keyboards and remote controls. University maintenance staff should likewise make sure that sinks, elevator buttons and classroom desks are kept clean," Duncan said.

Health officials also are encouraging colleges to keep sick workers at home until their symptoms have disappeared.

These precautions are similar to advisories issued earlier this month to employers and schools from kindergarten through grade 12.

Unlike the seasonal flu, which falters in the heat and humidity of summer, the swine flu has continued to spread, particularly among children. Day care centers and some summer camps have closed as a result.

The disease is expected to gain strength this fall, and college students are particularly vulner-

able because they don't see doctors on a regular basis, Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius said.

A CDC advisory panel has recommended that people under age 25, which includes most college students, be among the first to get the long-awaited swine flu vaccine, which will likely require two treatment courses to provide full protection when it becomes available in mid-October.

Sebelius said health officials are using social-networking Web sites to encourage students to get vaccinated.

"We're hoping were on track to be ahead of this virus, to get the college-age population vaccinated once the vaccine becomes available in mid-October and to keep students as safe and secure as possible in the meantime," Sebelius said.

If severe outbreaks occur, colleges and universities working with local health experts could impose more severe precautions such as isolating sick patients in one location or canceling public gatherings. Those decisions will be made on an individual basis.

White House, Congress project record deficits

JIM KUHNHEIN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The federal government faces exploding deficits and mounting debt over the next decade, White House and congressional budget officials projected Tuesday in competing but similar economic forecasts.

Both the White House Office of Management and Budget and the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office predicted the budget deficit this year would swell to nearly \$1.6 trillion, a record, and far above the then-record 2008 budget deficit of \$455 billion.

But while figures released by the White House foresee a cumulative \$9 trillion deficit from 2010-2019, \$2 trillion more than the administration estimated in May, congressional budget analysts put the 10-year figure at a lower \$7.14 trillion.

One reason for the difference: The CBO projection is based on an assumption that all the tax cuts put into place in the administration of former President George W. Bush will expire on schedule by 2011 as dictated by current law.

President Barack Obama's budget baseline, however, hews to his proposal to keep the tax cuts in place for families earning less than \$250,000 a year.

Beyond the 10-year forecast, the nation will face further challenges posed by rising health care costs and the aging of the population, the CBO said. "The budget remains on an unsustainable path" over the long-term and will require some combination of lower spending and higher tax revenues, it said.

Both forecasts see unemployment rising to 10 percent before falling and both suggest growth will return to the economy later this year but that recovery will be slow after the longest and deepest recession since the 1930s.

"This recession was simply worse than the information that we and other forecasters had back in last fall and early this winter," said Obama economic adviser Christina Romer.

She predicted unemployment could reach 10 percent this year and begin a slow decline next year.

Still, she said, the average unemployment will be 9.3 in 2009 and 9.8 percent in 2010. The



Bernanke

The total national debt, made up of amounts the government owes to the public, including foreign governments, as well as money it has borrowed from itself, stood Tuesday at a staggering \$1.7 trillion.

Congressional Budget Office director Douglas Elmendorf said if Congress doesn't reduce deficits, interest rates will likely rise, hurting the economy.

But if Congress acts too soon, the economic recovery — once it arrives — could be thwarted, he said.

"We face perils in acting and perils in not acting," Elmendorf told reporters.

One solution, Elmendorf said, is for Congress to pass measures today that would reduce the deficit in the future, after the economy recovers.

That could reassure bondhold-

ers that Congress is serious about cutting the deficit, without stifling the recovery, he said.

Obama himself may have drowned out the rising deficit news with the announcement Tuesday that he intends to nominate Ben Bernanke to a second term as chairman of the Federal Reserve.

The Bernanke news, and a report that consumers are regaining some confidence, may have neutralized any disturbance in the financial markets caused by the high deficit projections. Stocks were up in late morning trading.

The deeper red ink and the gloomy unemployment forecast pleased Obama with an enormous challenge.

The new numbers come as he prods Congress to enact a major overhaul of the health care system — one that could cost \$1 trillion or more over 10 years.

Obama has said he doesn't want the measure to add to the deficit, but lawmakers have been unable to agree on revenues that cover the cost.

What's more, the high unemployment could last well into this summer, on pace for the steepest annual decline in decades.

contests into a referendum on Obama's economic policies.

Republicans pounced. "The alarm bells on our nation's fiscal condition have become a siren," Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said. "If anyone had any doubts that this burden on future generations is unsustainable, they're gone — spending, borrowing and debt are out of control."

The revised White House estimates project that the economy will contract by 2.8 percent this year, more than twice what the White House predicted earlier this year.

Romer projected that the economy would expand in 2010, but by 2 percent instead of the 3.2 percent growth the White House predicted in May.

By 2011, Romer estimated, the economy would be humming at 3.6 percent growth.

Both Romer and budget director Peter Orszag said this year's contraction would have been far worse without money from the \$787 billion economic stimulus package that Obama pushed through Congress as one of his first major acts as president.

At the same time, the contin-

ing stresses on the economy have, in effect, increased the size of the stimulus package because the government will have to spend more in unemployment insurance and food stamps, Orszag said.

He said the cost of the stimulus package — which spends most of its money in fiscal year 2010 — will grow by tens of billions of dollars above the original \$787 billion.

For now, while the country tries to come out of a recession, neither spending cuts nor broad tax increases would be prudent deficit-fighting measures.

But Obama is likely to face those choices once the economy shows signs of a steady recovery, and it could test his vow to only raise taxes on the wealthy.

Still, 10-year budget projections can be "wildly inaccurate," said Stan Collender, a partner at Qorvis Communications and a former congressional budget official.

Collender notes that there will be five congressional elections over the next 10 years and any number of foreign and domestic challenges that will make actual deficit figures very different from the estimates.

Home prices show quarterly increase

J.W. ELPHINSTONE
AP Real Estate Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Home prices across most of the country have started to rise from the depths of the housing slump, a critical trend that will help stabilize the broader U.S. economy, according to new figures released Tuesday.

Nationally, prices in the second quarter posted their first quarterly increase in three years, according to the widely watched Standard & Poor's Case-Shiller's U.S. National Home Price Index.

While home prices are still 30 percent below the mid-2006 peak, their new direction should bring relief to both lenders and homeowners.

Falling property values have wiped out \$4 trillion in homeowner equity, and thousands have walked away from homes that are worth far less than their mortgage balance.

Lenders have written off billions of dollars in bad loans and to sell foreclosed homes at a fraction of their former cost.

"People are much more inclined to stay where they are and work something out," if they have equity in their homes, said Sanjiv Das, chief executive of Citigroup's mortgage unit.

And as consumers feel more confident in the value of their residences, they will feel safer about spending again.

Consumer spending makes up about 70 percent of U.S. economic activity.

In August, consumer confidence rose to the highest level since the recession began, the New York-based Conference Board said Tuesday.

Case-Shiller's monthly index of 20 major cities also rose from May to June, with Dallas and Denver clocking their fourth-straight increase.

Only Detroit and Las Vegas saw prices fall in June. There are concerns, however, that the momentum behind home prices will stall at the end of November with the expiration of a federal tax credit for first-time homebuyers.

These newbie buyers are snapping up one in every three homes sold.

First-time buyers get a credit of 10 percent of the sales price of a home, up to \$8,000.

The credit phases out for singles earning more than \$75,000 and couples earning more than \$150,000.

The real estate industry is lobbying to have the credit extended.

"If the tax credit is making a significant impact, then housing will take a big hit when it expires," said Pat Newport, an economist at IHS Global Insight.

THE NEWS: The U.S. National Home Price Index rose 1.4 percent from the first quarter to 133, though was still down almost 15 percent from the second quarter of last year.

Home prices, on a seasonally adjusted basis, are at levels not seen since early 2003.

The monthly index of 20 major cities increased 0.7 percent to 142 from May to June, the second straight month the index didn't decline. It was still 15.5 percent below June a year ago.

Every metro showed annual declines, with fifteen reporting double-digit drops.

THE REPORT: The Case-

Shiller indexes measure home price increases and decreases relative to prices in January 2000. The base reading is 100; so a reading of 150 would mean that home prices increased 50 percent since the beginning of the index.

WHAT IT SHOWS: The 20-city index is a three-month moving average of repeat sales of a designated group of single-family homes in each city. By measuring the sales price of the same properties over time, the index prevents the data from being skewed by a change in the types of homes sold. Sales between related parties, such as family members, are excluded because they may not reflect true market values.

The Case-Shiller quarterly index is a composite of home price indexes for the nine U.S. census divisions.

WHAT IT DOESN'T SHOW: The indexes only measure price data in 20 major metropolitan areas in 15 states and the District of Columbia. So many areas of the country are not represented.

WHY IT MATTERS: Investors closely watch the Case-Shiller indexes to gauge the level and direction of home prices. The indexes include a broader mix of properties compared to the index created by the Federal Housing Finance Agency. That index excludes many high-end properties, as well as homes bought with riskier mortgages or all cash.

THE QUOTE: "For the second month in a row, we're seeing some positive signs," said David M. Blitzer, chairman of the S&P index committee, adding, "There are hints of an upward turn from a bottom."

Recession makes mail a little lighter

ASHLEY M. HEHER
AP Retail Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — You can find a bright spot in the recession as close as your mailbox: There are far fewer hefty catalogs, bulging coupon packets, unwanted credit card offers and glossy fliers clogging it up.

Thanks to the economic downturn and rising shipping costs, junk mail volume was down 16 percent from last fall to this summer, on pace for the steepest annual decline in decades.

Businesses that are still sending junk mail are sending less of it — shrinking their catalogs and using thinner paper to save money.

It's a sign stores are still struggling, but it also means less paper to toss in the garbage or lug to the recycling bin.

"I get excited for mail, and then I look at it, and it's just trash," said Nicole Soto, a mother of two in Winchester, Mass., who hates junk mail so much she joined a service to help her cut down even further.

"At the end of the day, I don't like the idea of so much being wasted," she said. "And I'm the one who feels like I'm doing the wasting, because I'm the one who has to put it in the recycle bin."

Williams-Sonoma Inc., parent company of mailbox mainstay Pottery Barn and West Elm, plans to cut in half the number of pages in its catalogs by 2011. It also plans to target the customers who are most likely to spend.

J. Crew Group Inc. cut its catalog circulation by 27 percent earlier this year. Crate & Barrel and the parent company of the Victoria's Secret catalog are tweaking their mail strategy.

Fewer credit card solicitations are going out, too. About 1.4 billion fewer were mailed last year than in 2007, a decline big enough to account for a quarter of the overall drop in junk mail.

Market research firm Synovate says the decrease is accelerating this year. As the global credit crisis took hold, lenders also cut way back on direct mail offers for home equity loans and mortgage refinancing.

The reprieve from overstuffed mailboxes will probably end as the economy revives. Catalogs, pamphlets and flyers remain among the cheapest and most effective ways to market and sell products and draw new shoppers into stores.

Catalogs, on average, generate \$7 in sales for every dollar it takes to publish and mail them, industry data show.

They also give customers a taste of a store's carefully cultivated image, like the modern-yet-unpretentious aesthetic of Crate & Barrel or the all-American preppy flair of J. Crew.

Web sites and e-mail promotions are growing in popularity and are far cheaper for businesses — they get a \$45 return on every dollar — but they fall short of catalogs in drumming up new business.

"When you go farther into

the Web site, you get a great assortment of products, but it's hard to keep up with that lifestyle feel," Neil O'Keefe, a vice president of multichannel segments at the Direct Marketing Association. "But with a catalog, with every page you turn, you're able to convey that lifestyle and that brand."

Among those hit hardest as businesses cut back on direct mail is the already struggling U.S. Postal Service.

Junk mail, which the post office calls standard mail, accounted for about a fourth of its revenue in 2008.

The postal service raised its rates for junk mail last year and again this spring, but it still made \$200 million less from junk mail last year than it did in 2007, and this year's decline could be even bigger.

Before 2007, when the post office handled more than 103 billion pieces, junk mail had climbed almost every year since 1971.

For the near future, at least with retail sales still slow and consumer credit still tight, your mailbox will probably stay roomier.

Blyth Inc., a mail-order retailer that sends out 120 million catalogs a year under brands such as Miles Kimball and Exposures, has cut pages and trimmed circulation about 10 percent, dropping its least dependable customers.

"When the economy starts to pick up, we will be less conservative," said Stan Krangel, president of Blyth's Internet and catalog division. "But that hasn't started to happen just yet."

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South Korea's first rocket launch fails to push satellite

KWANG-TAE KIM
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea's first rocket launch Tuesday failed to push a satellite into its orbit but the flawed mission may still anger rival North Korea, coming just months the communist nation's own launch drew international condemnation.

The failure dealt a blow to Seoul's quest to become a regional space power. It comes against the complex backdrop of relations on the Korean peninsula — and recent signs that months of heightened tension over the North's nuclear program may be easing.

Also Tuesday, a South Korean newspaper reported that North Korea has invited top envoys of President Barack Obama for the first nuclear negotiations between the two countries under his presidency, but Washington quickly said it has no plans to send the envoys to Pyongyang.

The North gave no immediate reaction to the rocket launch but has said it will watch to see if the U.S. and regional powers

refer the matter to the U.N. Security Council — which in June approved sanctions on the North over its recent nuclear and missile tests.

The two-stage Naro rocket, whose first stage was designed by Russia, was South Korea's first launch of a rocket from its own territory. It lifted off Tuesday from South Korea's space center on Oenaro Island, about 290 miles (465 kilometers) south of Seoul.

The rocket was carrying a domestically built satellite aimed at observing the atmosphere and oceans. A South Korean official said they could not trace the satellite in orbit after it separated from the rocket.

"We could not locate our satellite. It seems that communications with the satellite scheduled on Wednesday are unlikely to happen," Science Ministry official Yum Ki-soo told The Associated Press late Tuesday.

He said more details could be available on Wednesday as South Korean and Russian scientists were analyzing data to try to determine the cause of the failure.

Russia's Interfax-AVN news agency, citing an unidentified Russian space industry source, said the satellite never reached orbit and problems occurred in the South Korean-built second stage of the rocket.

In Moscow, an official at the Russian space agency, Roscosmos, declined to comment on the report that the satellite did not enter any orbit or say anything about what happened to it.

In joint statements, Roscosmos and the state-controlled Khrunichev company, which made the rocket's first stage, said that the first stage operated as planned.

South Korean President Lee Myung-bak called the launch a "half success."

"We must further strive to realize the dream of becoming a space power," Lee said, according to his office.

Among Asian countries, China has conducted a manned space flight, and Japan and India have also sent rockets carrying satellites into space.

The liftoff came after a warning from North Korea that it

would be "watching closely" for the international response to Seoul's launch after its own launch in April — suspected as a disguised test of long-range missile technology — drew rebuke from the United Nations.

The North, unlike the South, is banned from ballistic missile activity by Security Council resolutions as part of international efforts to eliminate its nuclear and long-range missile programs.

South Korean officials said it is inappropriate to compare their launch with the North's because Seoul's is for peaceful purposes and was carried out with transparency.

"As I look at the case, our government, as a member of international treaties on nonproliferation, has been engaging in its space development program with a responsible attitude. We've been doing this openly," Defense Ministry spokesman Won Tae-jae told reporters.

Last week, U.S. State Department spokesman Ian Kelly supported Seoul, saying South Korea has developed its program in a very open and trans-

parent way.

The North sees the contrasting international reactions over the launches as discriminatory. It says its April rocket launch fired a satellite into space, although experts say no such satellite has been detected in orbit.

Kim Tae-woo, a senior analyst of the Korea Institute for Defense Analyses, said that despite the North's stance, Tuesday's launch is unlikely to have major implications on inter-Korean relations.

In recent weeks, the North has become markedly more conciliatory, both toward the United States and South Korea.

Earlier this month, it freed two American journalists following a trip to Pyongyang by former President Bill Clinton.

It has also freed a South Korean detainee, agreed to lift restrictions on border crossings with the South and resume suspended inter-Korean projects in industry and tourism.

On Wednesday, Red Cross officials of both Koreas are set to hold three days of talks on resuming reunions of families separated during the Korean

War over five decades ago.

In its latest diplomatic sweetener toward Washington, Pyongyang has reportedly invited U.S. envoys for talks on its nuclear program.

North Korea recently offered the invitation to Stephen Bosworth, special envoy to North Korea, and chief nuclear negotiator Sung Kim, Seoul's JeongAng Ilbo daily reported. But in Washington, spokesman Kelly said Tuesday that neither Bosworth nor Sung Kim has plans to go to North Korea. He would not say explicitly whether any North Korean invitation was received.

He only said he was aware of North Korea's interest in engaging Washington in bilateral talks.

Pyeongyang has long sought direct negotiations with Washington about its nuclear program and other issues.

The U.S. says it is willing to talk bilaterally to Pyongyang, but only within the framework of six-party talks involving the two Koreas, the U.S., China, Russia and Japan, which North Korea withdrew from in April.

L.A. coroner's report: Death of 'King of Pop' ruled a homicide

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
THOMAS WATKINS
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Michael Jackson's death has been ruled a homicide caused by a mix of drugs meant to treat insomnia, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press, while his personal doctor told investigators he was actually trying to wean the King of Pop off the powerful anesthetic that did him in.

Forensic tests found the anesthetic propofol combined with at least two sedatives to kill Jackson, according to the official, who spoke Monday on condition of anonymity because the findings have not been publicly released.

Based on those tests, the Los Angeles County Coroner has ruled the death a homicide, the official said.

The coroner's homicide ruling does not necessarily mean a crime was committed. But it makes it more likely criminal charges will be filed against Dr. Conrad Murray, the Las Vegas cardiologist who was caring for the pop star when he died June 25 in a rented Los Angeles mansion.

Through his lawyer, Murray has said he administered nothing that "should have" killed Jackson.

Murray told investigators that Jackson stopped breathing about 10 minutes after he rendered and finally gave in to his

patient's demands for propofol around 10:40 a.m., following a nightlong regimen of sedatives that did not work, according to court documents unsealed Monday.

A search warrant affidavit unsealed in Houston, where Los Angeles police took materials from one of Murray's clinics last month as part of their manslaughter investigation, includes a detailed account of what detectives say Murray told them.

Manslaughter is homicide without malice or premeditation.

The doctor said he'd been treating Jackson for insomnia for about six weeks with 50 milligrams of propofol every night via an intravenous drip, the affidavit said.

Murray said he feared Jackson was becoming addicted to the anesthetic, which is supposed to be used only in hospitals and other advanced medical settings, so he had lowered the dose to 25 milligrams and added the sedatives lorazepam and midazolam.

That combination had succeeded in helping Jackson sleep two days prior to his death. So the next day, Murray told detectives, he cut off the propofol — and Jackson fell asleep with just the two sedatives.

Then around 1:30 a.m. on June 25, starting with a 10-milligram tablet of Valium, Murray said he tried a series of drugs instead of propofol to make Jackson sleep. The injections includ-

ed two milligrams of lorazepam around 2 a.m., two milligrams of midazolam around 3 a.m., and repeats of each at 5 a.m. and 7:30 a.m., respectively.

Murray told detectives that around 10:40 a.m. he gave in to Jackson's "repeated demands/requests" for propofol, which the singer called his "milk," according to the affidavit.

He administered 25 milligrams of the white-colored liquid — a relatively small dose — and finally, Jackson fell asleep.

Murray remained with the sedated Jackson for about 10 minutes, then left for the bathroom, the affidavit said. Less than two minutes later, Murray returned — and found Jackson had stopped breathing.

Cell phone records show three separate calls from Murray's phone for between 11:18 a.m. and 12:05 p.m., the affidavit said. It's not clear who received the calls.

Murray had told authorities he was administering CPR during that time.

In a statement posted late Monday on his firm's Web site, Murray's attorney Edward Chernoff questioned the timeline as depicted in the affidavit, calling it "police theory."

"Dr. Murray simply never told investigators that he found Michael Jackson at 11:00 a.m. not breathing," Chernoff said.

He declined to comment on the homicide ruling, saying, "We will be happy to address

the coroner's report when it is officially released."

The coroner's office has withheld its autopsy findings, citing a request from police to wait until their investigation is complete.

It is no surprise that such a combination of medications could kill someone, said Dr. David Zvara, anesthesia chairman at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"All those drugs act in synergy with each other," Zvara said. Adding propofol on top of the other sedatives could have "tipped the balance" by depressing Jackson's breathing and ultimately stopping his heart.

The 25 milligrams of propofol "is not a whopping amount," said Lee Cantrell, director of the San Diego division of the National Poison Control System.

It was the cocktail of the other sedatives, known as benzodiazepines, that "may have been the trigger that pushed him over the edge," Cantrell said.

Cantrell said it's perplexing that someone would give various benzodiazepines if one was found not to be effective.

"This is horrible polypharmacy," he said, referring to the interaction between the various drugs. "No one will treat an insomnia like this."

The affidavit, signed by a judge July 20, said that the coroner's office chief medical examiner told police his review of preliminary toxicology results showed "lethal levels of propo-

fol."

Besides the propofol and two sedatives, the coroner's toxicology report found other substances in Jackson's system but they were not believed to have been a factor in the singer's death, the official told the AP.

Murray didn't tell paramedics or doctors at UCLA hospital where Jackson was rushed about any drugs he administered other than lorazepam and flumazenil, a "rescue drug" to counteract problems from too much lorazepam, according to the affidavit.

It was only during a subsequent interview with Los Angeles Police detectives that Murray gave a more full accounting of the events leading up to the 911 call, the document said.

A call to the coroner's office was not returned Monday. A spokeswoman for the Los Angeles District Attorney's said no case had been presented so the office had nothing to comment on.

The line between safe and dangerous doses of propofol is thin, and according to the drug's guidelines a trained professional must always stay bedside.

Word that Jackson was given the drug to help him sleep startled the medical community, not the least because the setting was his rented mansion.

Home use of propofol is virtually unheard of — safe administration requires both a specially trained anesthesiologist and an array of lifesaving equipment.

Murray was trained as a heart doctor, not a pain and sedation specialist.

At Jackson's bedside were pill bottles for other drugs prescribed by Murray and two other doctors, the document says.

The medicines include a variety of anti-insomnia drugs, a muscle relaxant and a drug for urinary problems from an enlarged prostate.

Investigators found about eight bottles of propofol in Jackson's home along with numerous other medications, according to the affidavit.

Murray told investigators he didn't order or buy any propofol, but investigators served a search warrant Aug. 11 at a Las Vegas pharmacy and uncovered evidence showing Murray legally purchased from the store the propofol he gave Jackson the day he died.

When he died, Jackson was skinny but not overly emaciated, and his body had bed sores, the official said.

The singer is believed to have developed bed sores in the months following his 2005 acquittal of child molestation charges, when he went into seclusion and spent long stretches in bed.

Jackson's family released a statement Monday, saying it has "full confidence" in the legal process and the efforts of investigators.

It concludes: "The family looks forward to the day that justice can be served."

A Timeline of Michael Jackson's Death

Dr. Conrad Murray administers 10 milligrams of Valium	Murray administers 2 milligrams of lorazepam	Murray administers 2 milligrams of midazolam	Murray administers 2 milligrams of both midazolam and lorazepam	Murray Gives in to demands from Jackson to administer propofol at 25 mm
1:30 a.m.	2 a.m.	3 a.m.	7:30 a.m.	10:40 a.m.

Approximately 10:50 a.m. - Murray goes to the bathroom
 10:52 a.m. - Murray returns, Jackson not breathing
 11:18 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. - Murray makes 3 phone calls

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 Contributors meetings are every Wednesday at 5 p.m.
 in room 328 General Classroom Building

Chris Rock's got 'Good Hair'

SYLVIA OBELL
Register Reporter

Many of you may or may not have heard of Chris Rock's upcoming documentary titled "Good Hair."

This title has been the subject of much controversy. According to the Sundance Film Festival website, director Jeff Stilson's cameras follow Chris Rock as he travels to hair salons, styling battles, scientific laboratories, and Indian temples to explore the way black hairstyles impact the activities, pocketbooks, sexual relationships, and self-esteem of black people.

The phrase good hair has been a term that causes much contention among black women. Given the debate that usually follows the use of the term good hair, I assumed this film was a comedian's attempt to poke fun at a sensitive topic.

Rock actually came up with the idea for the film after his daughter, Lola, came to him crying asking, "Daddy, how come I don't have good hair?"

The film is about Rock's

search to find the origins of the question, and why his young daughter is obsessed with it.

Along with questioning the hair industry, Rock also gets stories and observations from celebrities such as Ice T, Kerry Washington, Nia Long, Paul Mooney, Raven Symone, Maya Angelou, and Reverend Al Sharpton.

A&T Junior, Dana Hawkins, praises Rock for what he's trying to do in this film.

Hawkins says, "Many people have sought out to expose the negative stereotypes the black community and society put on black women's hair. Spike Lee did it with his movie 'School Daze' and India Arie did it with her song 'I Am Not My Hair.'"

They inspired me because your hair doesn't make you who you are. I hope Chris Rock's documentary can do the same to black women and girls of all ages."

I believe Hawkins makes an excellent point because Lola represents millions of African-American girls who are forced to feel insecure because of the

phrase "good hair".

It has long been a stigma I've grown to hate. I mean, what is good hair? What makes one type of hair better than another? Why can't we just embrace all types of hair?

Negative labels have caused African-American women to spend all their money on sew-ins, caps, wigs, extensions, perms, relaxers, etc, trying to look like what society perceives as beautiful.

This is the issue that Rock sets out to solve in his film.

According to the film description on the Sundance Film Festival's website, what Rock finds is that black hair is a big business that doesn't always benefit the black community and little Lola's question might well be bigger than his ability to convince her that the stuff on top of her head is nowhere near as important as what is inside.

It's that lesson that may make this an amazing documentary and for that reason I recommend that everyone, especially African-American women, go see Chris Rock's "Good Hair".

Where has my best friend gone?

LARIA LAND
Register Reporter

Aren't best friends the greatest? I mean who else will spend 6+ hours with you in a mall, or go round for round with you on the basketball court, or even take that super long trip across town to pick you up when you're stranded, for the second time. Their listening skills never fade no matter how often you complain about the same never-changing issue, and there is probably no one else in the world who you can laugh with until your eyes start watering and your breaths become short.

That bond, that love, that connecting spirit definitely brings you a one-of-a-kind "brother from another mother". So what happens when graduation comes or summer break ends and you come here and they go there, and there is nothing but miles and miles of highways in between?

Sure, at first the phone calls are daily and the updates are detailed because the issues you were helping each other through are still very much prevalent. Plans are made to visit during homecoming, and when something hot goes down on campus that's the first person you call to brag to, but then your lives begin to take off. Someone joins a new organization or schoolwork becomes even more challenging and time-consuming, and just as often as the phone calls came, they stopped.

Sadly no one notices at first, but don't get worried because it wasn't on purpose. It is human nature to initially concern yourself with only what's smacking you directly in the face, so if there isn't a best friend with a

huge neon-colored sign saying "YOUR IGNORING ME", it might take a minute before the light bulb goes off. But when that realization finally does surface, it can be hard to deal with.

So many questions, so little answers: Man, I miss my bestie? Whose fault is it? What did I do or what didn't I do? Can we really fix it, and my personal favorite, if it's meant to be it will be? I am 100 percent guilty of always being the friend who reaches out and is completely understanding at all times, but it is often very tiresome. Your mind begins to play tricks on you and you really want to put yourself first, but this is your best friend for a reason and they just are not someone you are able to let go of easily.

The reality of that fact is people do grow apart and things do change. That girl or boy you sat next to in kindergarten sharing crayons with may not be the exact same person they are today. However, that may not necessarily be a bad thing.

Take me and my best friends for example. We all met in elementary school, for the most part it's just three of us, only two of us attended the same high school, and none of us are attending the same university. When we were younger it was difficult for my friend and I who attended the same high school to plan outings and events for the three of us to hang out together because we could not all get on one accord. That never stopped our efforts though and sooner or later we got it right and the three of us had a great time growing together.

However, I can honestly say our relationships have

changed and college is playing a big role. At times it feels as though we are working so hard to make sure everything is together once graduation comes, we forget this part of our lives requires just as much time, energy and dedication as it did in the past.

There is only so many times you can apologize for a week going by without so much as a returned phone call or text message, especially when your Facebook page gets updated regularly. For some, giving up is the route of choice because it is far less strenuous, but if this person is the only one you trusted with all your secrets and who you decided would be your child's future godparent, then that may really be someone to keep around. All it takes is a simple conversation explaining how you feel and listening to how they feel.

Several times for my friends and I, it was just clearing our miscommunication and eliminating the naysayers, those who did not understand our friendship in the first place. Most importantly, some type of agreement needs to be established where each person involved will work to make equally genuine efforts to just do better and live up to the title Best.

As time goes on, continue to assess. If conversations are not progressing and you notice they consist of too many "remember when" stories, it may be time to move on. So smile because it happened and understand none of it was a waste. In the end you both are better in some way or another due to the experiences you have shared together. Friendship really is the window to life!

Mad about something? Got a story to tell us?
Want something else in the paper?
Well, write for us!
Contributor's Meeting Every Wednesday
5p.m. at NCB Room 328

It's too early for cold feet in Afghanistan

TRUDY RUBBIN
The Philadelphian Inquirer

Even before Afghans went to the polls last week, Americans were getting queasy about U.S. involvement in Afghanistan.

At this writing, the election results are still unclear. But with 60,000 U.S. troops in the country and a chance that their commanders will request more, a recent Washington Post-ABC poll indicated 51 percent of Americans said they believed it was not worth fighting a war there. Seventy percent of the doubters are Democrats, which must give President Obama pause. And only 24 percent of Americans would back sending more forces.

Their concerns are understandable. But it's far too early — and far too dangerous — for Americans to get cold feet.

I understand why so many Americans are worried; I am, too. Whatever the election outcome, Afghanistan will have a weak central government, riddled with corruption and reluctant to take on the drug mafia that funds the Taliban. The Afghan army and police are in their

infancy and unreliable.

Moreover, if the purpose of the exercise is, as Obama argues, to "disrupt, dismantle and defeat" al-Qaeda, why are we sending troops into the Afghan maw?

After all, al-Qaeda and its hard-line Taliban supporters are based in the wild Pakistani tribal areas along the Afghan border. So, some ask, why not minimize our presence in Afghanistan and focus on stabilizing Pakistan, which has both terrorists and nukes?

Having spent time in both Afghanistan and Pakistan, most recently in May, I'd argue one cannot address the problem in one country without stabilizing both.

Yes, the central problem lies in Pakistan, where local jihadis and al-Qaeda seek to destabilize the state and get hold of its nuclear weapons. They also would like to provoke a war with nuclear-armed India by carrying out terrorist attacks there.

But al-Qaeda is linked with senior Afghan Taliban leaders. Mullah Omar may have started out as a primitive rural Islamist

with limited goals, but he and other top Afghan Taliban are now joined to a broader jihadi conglomerate with larger aspirations. Were his mullahs to retake control of much of Afghanistan, the ripple effect would strengthen terrorists in Pakistan.

Of course, the Obama team should spare no effort to help Pakistan confront its internal dangers. But this will be a frustrating process because Pakistan remains ambivalent about fighting the Taliban.

Although the Pakistani military recently took on one Taliban group in the Swat Valley after it had threatened Islamabad, the country's security elite still hesitates to confront other jihadis.

Pakistan's military and much of its political class still see India, not the jihadis, as their main enemy. This shortsightedness is chilling and could be suicidal.

Moreover, the Pakistani military declines to confront the Afghan Taliban for another reason: It thinks the United States will soon quit Afghanistan and favors a Taliban government

there that would be hostile to India. Members of Pakistan's security elite helped Mullah Omar's men in the 1990s, and they think they can control a restored Taliban regime in Kabul.

I believe they are very wrong.

Top U.S. officials, both civilian and military, are trying to change this mind-set. They are urging Pakistan's security elite to recognize the extent of the jihadi threat and are offering extensive military and economic aid.

In the meantime, something must be done to prevent the Afghan situation from deteriorating further. I found U.S. military commanders and civilian officials to be starkly realistic about what they face.

In the best-case scenario, they would be able to peel off local Taliban fighters and midlevel commanders who are in the fight for the money.

These "accidental guerrillas" make up the bulk of Taliban manpower, polls show, most Afghans don't want the return of the Taliban but do want jobs and a better life.

Letter to the editor

TRAVIS JACKSON
Vice President of External Affairs

Homecoming will begin the week of October 25th-November 1st 2009. Many of you have requested Drake and Mary Mary to perform during the Homecoming Festivities.

Unfortunately because of a recent injury to Drake's ACL and MCL, he will be unable to perform.

Actually, he is scheduled for surgery and will not be able to perform for the next 3-6 months.

However we do have a stand-

ing Homecoming Concert performance offer with Drake's booking agent.

Let's hope for the best for him and a speedy recovery. Additionally, Tina of the Gospel group Mary Mary is pregnant and her due date is in the month of October, therefore we could not consider Mary Mary at this time for our Gospel Concert.

We hope that you will enjoy this year's Homecoming and we appreciate your participation and support of the "Greatest Homecoming on Earth" during the 2009-2010 academic school year.

E-mail your editorials to
theatregister@gmail.com

Evan Summerville 8/19/09

aggie life



AGGIES 2009 FOOTBALL PREVIEW

A&T optimistic in restoring the winning legacy this season

CARLTON BROWN
Register Reporter

When it comes to Aggie Football over the past several years it's not hard to understand why many fans and new alumni have mixed emotions with the team and their success. However, the 2008 campaign for the Aggies showed signs of improvement going from two consecutive seasons without any victories, to 3-9 overall.

In Early 2009, Alonzo Lee became the 17th head coach in the history of North Carolina A&T Football. Lee has a reputation of bringing hard-nose, smash-mouth football with his program and this year's team will be no exception. This is Lee's second stint with the Aggies. He served as a defensive coordinator, and then left the team to take a position with the Morgan State University Bears.

"A&T is a sleeping giant," Lee said. "Toughness is what aggie pride was built on. We have to clean up the little things." Here's a look at the 2009 roster by position.

DB/DL: Hoping to help with tradition on the defensive side, are transfers Kevin Green corner back from Purdue Uni-



PHOTO BY MICHEALA EDWARDS - A&T REGISTER

THE AGGIES are just a week away from their season opener against arch-rival Winston-Salem State in the 1-40 battle on September 5 in Winston-Salem. Junior college transfer Terrence Humes. Humes will give depth to the front line who struggled last season averaging just 2.9 yards per carry and allowing 3.2 sacks per game. Veteran Junior Enoch Cohen, who earned preseason honors of second team all HBCU, should also be a key addition this season.

OL: The team signed five offensive line men during the off season, including ju-

LB: Senior Linebacker Andre Thornton who led the team in tackles the last two seasons and has compiled 221 career tackles. Sophomore Brandon Jackson made a name for himself on special teams, but plans to be a starter at the linebacker position as well this season.

RB: With former running back Michael Ferguson now longer there to carry the load,

Junior Running back Nigel Tomlin showed flashes of brilliance last season carrying the ball 49 times for an impressive 5.5 yards per carry. Junior College transfer Tony Coles will also carry the load rushing for 1,500 yards as a prep school sensation.

WR: To help the campaign is Larry Raper out of Shelby North Carolina who is ranked 15th in the state. Raper was also ranked as a top 100 player by www.rivals.com and ESPN. Veterans Seniors Giorgio Lowrance and Cedric Byrd also plan to lead the offense down the field.

QB: Senior Quarterback Carlton Fears is the new guy on the block reinforcing Lee's hopes. Fears was named the starter going into camp this summer, and many feel this will be his breakout season. "It feels good, to know that you are the guy," Fears said. "You step into a role that makes you a leader."

The transfer from Georgia Military College and threw 1,642 yards and 14 touchdowns completing almost 50 percent of his passes during his stint at the College.

Senior Herb Miller also returns as Fears backup.

AGGIES RUNDOWN

FOOTBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
North Carolina A&T	0-0	0-0
Morgan State	0-0	0-0
Florida A&M	0-0	0-0
Hampton	0-0	0-0
MD Eastern Shore	0-0	0-0
Delaware State	0-0	0-0
South Carolina State	0-0	0-0
Coppin State	0-0	0-0
Bethune Cookman	0-0	0-0
Norfolk State	0-0	0-0
Howard	0-0	0-0

UPCOMING GAMES:

September 5
vs. Winston-Salem State
Winston-Salem, NC
6 p.m.

September 12
vs. Norfolk State
Aggie Stadium
6 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
North Carolina A&T	0-0	0-0
Bethune Cookman	0-0	0-0
Morgan State	0-0	0-0
Norfolk State	0-0	0-0
Delaware State	0-0	0-0
South Carolina State	0-0	0-0
Hampton	0-0	0-0
Florida A&M	0-0	0-0
Coppin State	0-0	0-0
Howard	0-0	0-0
MD Eastern Shore	0-0	0-0

UPCOMING GAMES:

Friday and Saturday
William and Mary Tournament
Williamsburg, VA
TBA

NEWS & NOTES

AGGIE FOOTBALL FUN FEST The North Carolina A&T football team will host its annual preseason kickoff festival this Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Aggie Stadium parking lot. General admission is free and the event will include an autograph session from the players, radio DJ's, and a live performance from the A&T band cheerleaders.

Lady Aggies 'volley' against alumni

PRINCE ASKEW
Register Reporter

The volleyball team saw it's first action of the year last Thursday in a scrimmage, losing to the alumni in two out of three sets. (30-24, 25-30, 25-18).

The alumni, including current head coach Toni Conway and assistant head coach Arlene Mitchell, scored the first point of the game and kept the Aggies on their toes throughout

the match. It was a game where the Aggies could see where they measured up against very good players and make the necessary adjustments.

"It was enjoyable to play with some of my old teammates and some of the volleyball alumni," Conway said.

Besides competing, Conway and the coaches also focused on the team's leadership.

"We have four [seniors], we were looking for them to step

up and lead our other upperclassmen and lowerclassmen to a win today," Mitchell said.

These leaders include outside hitters Jane Mitchell and Tiffany Mellette, middle hitter LaShawn White, and defensive specialist Stacey Malone.

The season will kick off this Friday in Williamsburg, VA against Maryland Eastern Shore Saturday.

They compete in a tournament at William and Mary College.



PHOTO BY MICHEALA EDWARDS - A&T REGISTER

ANDRE THORNTON, pictured center, was selected to the 2009 preseason MEAC second-team.

Thornton attempts to fulfill legacy in his final season

DANIEL HENDERSON
Sports Editor

For North Carolina A&T senior linebacker Andre Thornton, "consistency" has manifested in his football career in two different forms.

At two different points in his career, he "consistently" experienced the jubilant highs and depressing lows of playing the sport.

The Charlotte native won four consecutive state championships during his prep career at Independence High School, and has been a starting outside linebacker for A&T football team since his freshman year, missing just one game his entire career.

But contrary to his accomplishments, he lost touch of what was a norm in his career—winning.

He has been a part of the struggling Aggies since the early part of their 27-game losing streak totaling just three wins in the last three years and two consecutive winless seasons in 2006 and 2007.

"I still remember that first

game", said Thornton after the team's blue-and-gold scrimmage Saturday at Aggie Stadium. "It was hurtful."

Since leading the way for his defensive unit, Thornton has managed to post stellar numbers that include 221 total tackles, which is more than any other player on the roster.

He comes into this season with the chance of ranking among the top five linebackers in school history before ending his collegiate career.

But the statistics seemingly have not been appealing enough to gain the 2009 MEAC preseason second-team pick the same recognition as some of his counterpart conference linebackers.

Thornton has yet to make the first-team but still believes that he has the ability to be the best linebacker in the conference.

"Of course that's what everyone wants to be—the best," Thornton said. "The linebacker"—and I just work towards that. It makes me work harder." First-year head coach Alonzo Lee praised what he has witnessed of

AROUND SPORTS

MLB

N.Y. (AP) — Johan Santana needs surgery for bone chips in his left elbow and the star pitcher is out for the season, the latest blow to a New York Mets team battered by injuries. The team said their 30-year-old ace is expected to be ready for spring training next year. The two-time Cy Young winner was examined Tuesday by Mets medical director Dr. David Allcheck in New York.

NBA

CLEVELAND (AP) — The Cleveland Cavaliers signed former University of North Carolina forward Danny Green. Financial terms were not disclosed. He is the only player in conference history to record at least 1,000 points, 500 rebounds, 250 assists, 150 3-pointers, 150 blocks and 150 steals.

Green averaged a career-best 13.1 points and 4.7 rebounds in 38 games while helping the Tar Heels win the NCAA title this year. He averaged 8.2 points in five games for the Cavaliers in the Las Vegas Summer League.

NCAA FOOTBALL

S.C. (AP) — South Carolina defensive coach Ellis Johnson says he expects suspended defensive end Clifton Geathers, who was arrested, to miss the Gamecocks opener at North Carolina State.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Like sports? Like to write? The **A&T Register** is currently looking for writers to add to 'the Score'. Come to the contributors meetings held every Wednesday at 5 p.m. in the NCB, room 328A.

AGGIE PRIDE WORLDWIDE!

North Carolina A&T State University
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Aug. 26th-Sept. 1st

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

& SCENE HEARD



8th Year Anniversary of Aaliyah's Death

Tuesday marked the untimely death of R&B singer and actress Aaliyah when her plane crashed in The Bahamas following a video shoot for her hit song, "Rock the Boat."

At just 22 years old, Aaliyah Dana Haughton had already claimed success with three double platinum albums and starring roles in "Romeo Must Die" and "Queen of the Damned."

Her soulful voice and stage presence will always be remembered as being "One In A Million."

-S.B.

Stephanie's food reminds you of home

KELCIE MCRAE
Register Reporter

So you are away from home, and you are longing for your mama's home-made macaroni and cheese, candied yams, greens, fried chicken, and so much more.

The cafe is not hitting the spot like you want it to, and you are craving to go somewhere that may be remotely close to what you were getting at home.

Well luckily your search is now over, because Stephanie's Restaurant II may be the closest thing to your mama's cooking.

For food good on the stomach as well as the wallet, this quaint little restaurant off Randleman Road in Greensboro, is just the substitute you are looking for.

As a college student, your funds may be a little low.

You want great food without paying the high prices.

Look no further because here you can find a full meal for fewer than ten dollars.



PHOTO BY KENNETH HAWKINS - PHOTO EDITOR

JUST LIKE MAMA'S Stephanie's Restaurant off of Randleman Road is the perfect place for student's to go and get a homecooked meal while away from home.

Fish, chicken, meatloaf, and a variety of other traditional soul food dinners with two succulent sides are just a few of the choices Stephanie's has to offer.

Their fried chicken was amazing as well as the candied yams, macaroni and cheese, and the roll.

The food came so close to what I was getting at home, it had me question whether

my mother was actually in the kitchen cooking.

If you are big on desserts, this is definitely the spot to go. From the best peach cobbler you've ever tasted in life, to the widely talked about Sweet Potato Cobbler, Stephanie's has it all. Not only do they have it all, they give you plenty on your plate.

They have a fast and friendly

staff ready to serve you, and have you leaving feeling full and refreshed.

Are you without a car and you do not know anyone who has one?

No worries, because you can catch the bus to get to Stephanie's. Just take the HEAT bus to the J. Douglas Galyon Depot, get on the I2, and it will have you on Randleman Road in no



ON SCREEN

THE FINAL DESTINATION starring Bobby Campo, Shantel VanSanten, Hailey Webb and Nick Zano, opens in theaters on Friday. It is the 4th installment of the series and is directed by David R. Ellis. In the movie, Nick (Campo) has a horrific premonition of bizarre events that brutally kill his friends.

-L.L.



ON SHELVES

FIGHTING is now on DVD and is directed by Dito Montiel. It stars Channing Tatum, and Terrence Howard. Shawn McArthur (Tatum) is a street hustler who is set up on by some youths that work for Harvey Boarden (Howard). Shawn begins to fight in "winner takes all" battles for money.

-L.L.



ON STAGE

THE COLOR PURPLE featuring Fantasia will be at the Greensboro Coliseum from September 9th to the 13th. Tickets are \$39.50 and up and are available through the Coliseum box office of Ticketmaster. The High Point native will be reprising the role of Celie.

-L.L.



ON CAMPUS

FOOTBALL FUN FEST will be held at Aggie stadium this Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. Fans will be able to meet the 2009 team and take part in several games and activities. Coaches and players will also sign autographs for fans.

-L.L.

Have a different opinion?
We would love to hear from you!
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

can be sent to theatregister@gmail.com or dropped off in GBC room A328G

MOVIE REVIEW: INGLORIOUS BASTERDS

'Basterds' can be glorious

ERIK VEAL
Register Reporter

The box office had a "glorious" outcome this weekend for Quentin Tarantino's new film, "Inglourious Basterds". Cultural diversity within the actors, language, and dialect makes the "Basterds" a hit. The movie is set in Nazi occupied France and places you on a trip with one destination: to kill Hitler and his generals.

One path to killing Hitler involves a theater owner named Shosanna Dreyfus, played by Melanie Laurent, who is hiding in France. After witnessing her family's murder and escaping the evil and creepy Colonel Hans Landa (Christopher Waltz), Dreyfus hides her true Jewish identity.

The Basterds, a Jewish-American group of soldiers executing Operation Kino, also plan to kill Hitler. Operation Kino run by Lieutenant Aldo Raine, played by Golden Globe-award winner Brad Pitt. They team up with undercover agent and

actress Bridget Von Hammersmark (played by Diane Kruger) on taking down the leaders of the Third Reich.

Dreyfus hosts a German movie premiere in her theater, and plans to lock all of the Nazi leadership in the theater and burn them to death. However,



the Basterds knew of the premiere and planned to blow up the theater.

The film has a very vibrant cast, but you must pay attention throughout the film because the mix of different languages might throw you off. However, the audience can still understand what's happening in the movie.

This film brought in \$37.6 million, topping the competition that included "District 9", "Post Grad", and "Shorts". Tarantino has done it again with this history lesson in World War II mixed with comedy and intense action. This movie is his biggest box office debut, surpassing 2004's "Kill Bill", which opened with \$25 million on its way to \$66 million. His fantasized version of World War II exceeds industry expectations with a budget of \$70 million. Though very violent and grotesque, it is a must see film. Yes, it has its moments of extended dialogue, but overall the film is phenomenal and it's a big hit in

▶ PRESS PLAY

Jay-Z feat. Rihanna and Kanye West "Run This Town"

This collaboration of three of the hottest artists in music right now has been quickly rising up the charts and is currently #3 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart.

-L.L.

|| PRESS PAUSE

Mariah Carey "Obsessed"

I know that Eminem is supposedly talking junk and this is her retaliation, but I don't think that this is a good look for Mariah, who seems to be stooping to his level and I think she is better than that.

-L.L.

Get your news updates in a variety of ways

THE A&T REGISTER



ncatregister.com

Grade



20 QUESTIONS

1. Why is Homecoming the same weekend as Halloween?
2. Should we dress up as a winning football team?
3. How empty will Franklin Street be with all the major HBCU games on the same day?
4. How many people will be saying 'Gucci' after the concert?
5. Are you color blind from all the outfits on campus?
6. What's the point of a sweater with short sleeves?
7. Do you have a Spider-Man bookbag?
8. Weren't they made for 6-year-olds?
9. Are we talking about you?
10. Did you get mad because you have yours now?
11. Was today your first day because you skipped the first week?
12. How many people looked at you funny because they've already completed three assignments?
13. Is the football team going to win 3 games this year?
14. Or 4?
15. Do the coaches know the flag football team are champs?
16. Shouldn't they be recruiting them?
17. How many of your friends are coming to our homecoming and not theirs?
18. Are you going to buy all your outfits with your refund check?
19. Have you even gotten your refund check yet?
20. Have you had to choose between books and a new outfit yet?