At least 100 students, nearly all dressed in black, gathered in the Student Center Plaza Sept. 20 to support the “Jena Six.”

The rally, organized by the Student Government Association, sought to support the students and protesters that gathered at a “Jena Six” rally in Jena, La. It also educated students on the situation, in which six black teenagers were involved in racial tensions that began when three white nooses were hung on a tree after a black student sat under the tree, which was meant for white students.

The situation escalated into a fight between black and white students. Initially, five black students were charged with attempted murder for the beating of a

JENA SIX | CONTINUING COVERAGE

Columnist Deven D. Anderson traveled to the rally in Jena, La. and offers his perspective on the events there.

PERSPECTIVES, PAGE 4

Please see JENA SIX, PAGE 3

SC State student earns 4.0 grade point average for past three years

SC State student Shawn Blake has 4.0 reasons to be proud.

Three 4.0 reasons, that is.

The senior from Columbia, S.C., majoring in industrial engineering technology, has maintained a 4.0 grade point average for the past three years. This can be challenging for some, but when you’re a member of the Honors Program, the Golden Key International Honour Society and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., as Blake is, it can be even more difficult.

But she says she tries to manage her time.

“You can’t always hang out when you want to, but I try to get my work done during the day so that I can have time to relax and do what I want to,” Blake said.

Blake said that it’s all about sacrifice and studying smart.

“In the long run, this is gonna help me out, because I am planning to go to grad school next year,” Blake said. “I know have to make decisions because… the choices that I make now are gonna look impressive in the future.”

When asked for advice for other students who want to succeed in college, Blake said that it starts with going to class.

“You can’t just want it and you don’t do anything about it, you have to go to class and take notes; you have to study those notes (and) be able to read your own notes,” Blake said. “And ask for help; don’t be afraid to ask for help when you need help.”

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The Collegian CALENDAR

Bulldog Volleyball: SC State vs. Norfolk State

When: Wednesday, Oct. 10
Where: Dukes Gymnasium
Time: 6 p.m.

Chat-n-Chew, presented by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

When: Monday, Oct. 8
Where: Smith-Hammond-Middleton Memorial Center
Time: 7:13 p.m.

Bulldog Idol

When: Thursday, Oct. 4
Where: Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium
Time: 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

The Coronation Ceremony of Miss SC State and the Installation of Student Government Association Officers

When: Friday, Oct. 12
Where: Smith-Hammond-Middleton Memorial Center
Time: Admission:

Rabies feared after bats take over dorm at Texas Southern University

A still from a video shows a student at Texas Southern University attempting to get rid of the bats in his dorm.

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An infestation of bats at Texas Southern University has health officials concerned.

The bats took over a dormitory, forcing more than 200 students into hotels. Now, there are worries the students may have been exposed to rabies.

Videos posted on the Internet show students swinging a broom and a tennis racket as several bats fly about in a dorm hallway. One student said he killed dozens of bats but didn't know if anyone was bitten.

Health officials asked students who had been in the dorm to meet with them to determine whether any would need rabies vaccinations.

Texas Southern officials, meanwhile, say they're trying to rid the dorm of the bats. It's not clear how many bats were in the building.

More than 200 students moved from building into hotels

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEMPHIS, Tenn. - Classes at the University of Memphis were canceled Monday after a football player was fatally shot on campus, in what school officials said was a targeted attack but city police later said could have been random.

By late Monday afternoon police had not identified any suspects in the slaying of Taylor Bradford, who was shot about 9:45 p.m. Sunday, apparently near a university housing complex.

After the shooting, the 21-year-old junior crashed a car he was driving into a tree. Police said they had not determined whether he was shot before or after he started driving the vehicle.

Police were responding to a car crash when Bradford was found slumped over in the vehicle on a campus street about 200 yards from his apartment complex.

"It wasn't until the paramedics got there that they determined there was a possible gunshot wound," said Bruce Harper, director of university police. He was apparently shot once, police said, though an autopsy was pending.

University President Shirley Raines said authorities quickly determined Bradford's killers were not a threat to other students but still banned all outsiders from campus housing throughout the night.

In an e-mail alert to faculty, students and staff members at 3:40 a.m. Monday, the university said "the initial investigation indicates this was an act directed specifically toward the victim and was not a random act of violence."

The university, which is primarily a commuter campus, still decided to cancel classes. The University of Memphis had 20,562 students enrolled for last fall, according to its Web site.

"We feel like the campus is safe, but we'd rather err on the side of safety than not," spokesman Curt Guenther said.

City police, who are handling the case because it is a homicide investigation, expressed less certainty that Bradford had been specifically targeted than university officials did.

City Police Director Larry Godwin said a motive for the shooting had not been determined and police had no suspects identified.

"We really don't know whether it was a random act or whether or not this individual was targeted," he said.

Godwin said witnesses saw two unidentified men running from the area where investigators believe the shooting occurred and other witnesses reported hearing gunfire.

Godwin said investigators had no evidence that Bradford was involved in any illegal activity.

"Everything I've heard about him ... he was just a good kid," Godwin said.

Bradford, a 5-foot-11, 300-pound defensive lineman, was a junior who transferred to Memphis last year after two seasons at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala. The Nashville resident was to have begun playing for the Tigers this season.

-Rabies feared after bats take over dorm at Texas Southern University

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By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Rev. Jesse Jackson visits SC State

Civil rights leader motivates students to become registered voters at rally

By DANTE MOZIE

A motivated and excited crowd of students, faculty and community leaders gathered in the Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium Sept. 18 to hear the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson voice his opinion on various issues that affect the African-American community.

Jackson, who appeared at the university as part of his Voter Education Tour for Jobs, Peace and Justice, urged the students to vote to change the issues that mattered to them, such as student aid, raising the minimum wage and attaining affordable health insurance.

“Every vote counts,” Jackson said. “I challenge you to exercise that right (to vote).”

The urge for young people to vote was one of the many subjects Jackson discussed when talking about achieving racial equality for African-Americans in the face of racism, from Medgar Evers death and the marches for equality in Louisiana.

Jackson also shared his own experiences of racial inequality, as he told the crowd of how he and other students, some from SC State, were jailed in 1960 for trying to use a public library.

Jackson said that those who arrested him and other students said they were “ignorant” for trying to use the library.

“Against the madness of that, we marched,” Jackson said. “The goal of our struggle is not freedom. The goal of our struggle is equality.

Jackson also talked the criminal justice system in South Carolina, which has had more than 110,000 blacks arrested each year for the past six years. He called the system, fueled by drugs and guns by inmates, a “jail-industrial complex” and said it was the largest single industry complex in the state.

And when you have a growing population of black inmates into the “jail-industrial complex,” supported by the import of drugs and guns, along with an increase in taxes and decrease in workers, this equals social inequality, according to Jackson.

“You can't lead the fight in Jena (La.) and don't fight for justice here at home,” Jackson said. “You cannot rest easy with that the fact that there are more….schools than jails and more prisons than state colleges. You must fight for education over incarceration.”

Jackson motivated the crowd not to use derogatory terms given for men, women and instead asked them to use their minds and self-esteem to honor those that fought for equality for blacks, such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

“You inherit the tradition of those martyrs. You must honor their mission by maintaining their struggle,” Jackson said.
Jena Six Rally in Louisiana is “My pilgrimage”

DEVEN ANDERSON

I have always wondered what it would be like take a pilgrimage or go on a search to become connected spiritually and mentally to the “big picture,” or as a simple part to a whole.

Many of the great leaders and theologians that I have studied each took their own individual journey to find moral significance as it pertains to life. El Hajj Malik El-Shabazz (Malcolm X) and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. each took pilgrimages to their Holy Land affiliated with their religions, and trod in paths as thousands had done before them.

On Sept. 20, I took my pilgrimage. No, I didn’t travel to Mecca to stand in awe at the “Dome on the Rock” or even to take a spiritual dip in the Jordan River where Jesus the Christ was baptized by John the Baptist. However, I, along with thousands of thousands of other brothers and sisters went to Jena, La. not simply to march or chant, but to emphasize and to illustrate the word “unity” in community. I can only imagine that our ancestors were smiling down with pride, while down below, Jim Crow rolled in his grave as 24 college students, both Black and White, drove down to the Jena Six Rally in Louisiana.

I must admit riding in a 15 passenger van for more than 13 hours in the late hours of the night, and on into the wee hours of the morning, can be an interesting ride.

Passing through Atlanta and Birmingham and seeing exit signs leading to Montgomery, these were the battle grounds of the Civil Rights Movement; I felt as though I was exiting Montgomery’s exit signs leading to Montgomery, these were the battle grounds of the Civil Rights Movement; I felt as though I was exiting Montgomery’s

Passing through Atlanta and Birmingham and seeing exit signs leading to Montgomery, these were the battle grounds of the Civil Rights Movement; I felt as though I was exiting the Jena Six Rally in Louisiana.

Upon our arrival into Louisiana, we were greeted by the sights of a chain gang, adorning outdated black and white striped jail suits, picking up trash and then observing numerous cotton fields where our ancestors worked and served.

I could have sworn I saw the spirits and the worn faces of our ancestors who toiled in those fields waving and cheering us on as we passed, and I knew I was on my pilgrimage.

The brothers and sisters in Jena, La. were an accurate depiction of Black America. Muslims, Christians, the Black Panthers, SCLC, NAACP, HBCUs and numerous civic and social organizations were represented with Blacks and Whites marching and chanting “No Justice No Peace!”

As we marched to the Lafayette Parish Courthouse, we began to sing the songs of old, bringing old feelings of the days of the Civil Rights Movement to our elders who marched along with us.

With generations coming together, it seems as though in Jena a torch or baton was being passed to my generation to now carry what was started long before us.

We were swamped in a crowd with people everywhere, with only enough room to breathe in between you and those surrounding you, while standing and listening to speakers ranging from the Darryl Matthews, General President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. and the grandmother of Mychal Bell, to Ricky Smiley leading the crowd in a rousing rendition of an old Negro spiritual.

I was stuck in the middle of humanity. The concept that all these people representing the various races, creeds, nationalities, religion, socioeconomic backgrounds, sexual orientations and institutions of higher learning were physically packed together in front of the courthouse, but spiritually, this elder was in the middle of humanity and the best it had to offer.

It was then I realized that this issue is not just a black issue, but it’s a human issue and that I have reached the peak of my pilgrimage.

There is much more to be said, but restraints will not permit. However, I will forever cherish the essence in the feeling of family while in Jena.

I still smile at the fact that people from California were meeting and greets as we were lost family members.

One of the most moving scenes on the way home was passing a Harley Davidson motorcycle club and one of the drivers pulled ahead of us and threw up six fingers representing the Jena Six, and even though we never met the driver or will never know who he is on that particular evening, we had a connection, a family connection.

Now 12 days later, the last of the Jena Six is free, President Bush has finally made statements in regards to this atrocity and now mostly everyone in the world knows that racial inequality still exists, and that we have resurrected the struggle. Peace and Blessings.
Despite sloppy game, SC State defeats Winston-Salem State

By DONTA’ LEGETTE
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

SC State survived a sloppy battle against Winston-Salem State on Sept. 22, as they defeated the Rams 20-7 in the Bulldogs’ home opener.

The celebration of SC State’s centennial in football started off with a big bang with the Bulldogs’ second play of their first drive. Quarterback Cleveland McCoy connected with wide receiver Terrance Smith on a 71-yard touchdown pass. With SC State’s first home touchdown of the season, the crowd was excited and ready to see the team defeat Winston-Salem State.

But it didn’t quite go that way, even though the victory improved SC State to 2-0 in the MEAC and 2-2 overall.

The Bulldogs had the crowd of 8,222 on the edge of their seats in the final six minutes of the fourth quarter, with the Rams marching down the field on the go-ahead drive.

But defensive tackle Sam Chester and defensive lineman Matt Key had other plans. They teamed up with a drive stopping sack on Winston-Salem State quarterback Monte Purvis on the third down.

The offense had a tough time executing in the red zone. A few costly penalties and a couple of missed reads in the red zone prevented the Bulldogs from taking advantage of easy scoring opportunities to put the game away early and destroy the Rams confidence.

After the game, Ford was asked how he would rate the team’s overall performance. The SC State running back said that he would rate the team a “C plus.”

Although the stats showed the dominance of SC State’s offense on Winston-Salem State, as the Bulldogs had 493 total yards, they had trouble in the red zone.

At the press conference, Ford was asked if their inability to score was frustrating.

“A little bit but we try to keep the momentum high even through the penalties really hurt,” Ford said.

Ford rushed for 162 yards and the running back core lead by Ford, Travil Jamison and Jonathan Woods had a combined yard total of 252 yards. Most of the Bulldogs’ offensive production came from their ground game, which Ford, for a second consecutive game, rushed for over 100 yards.

Despite some offensive woes, the stingy Bulldog defense showed up to play. The defense only allowed 200 yards of total offense against the Rams, and, not to mention, the go-ahead, drive-stopping sack, which was a game-changing play.

BEHOLD THE GREEN AND GOLD

Next on SC State’s agenda is a trip to Norfolk State on Oct. 6. The Bulldogs’ defense has to battle the Spartan trio of quarterback Casey Hansen, wide receiver Dario Walker and full back Daryl Jones, who combined for 342 yards of offense against Bethune-Cookman in a come from behind win with 15 unanswered points in the fourth quarter, defeating the Wildcats 38-31 on Sept. 22 at Norfolk State.

The Bulldogs look to be as stingy as they were with the Rams and look forward to improvements from the offense’s performance in the red zone and getting the team rested and ready for the upcoming game against the Spartans in Norfolk, Va.
Carlos Camejo, a 33 year old Venezuelan man has now become infamous for waking up during his own autopsy, following his involvement in a highway accident.

While performing the autopsy, doctors soon realized that the man was bleeding and quickly sought to stitch him up. In the midst of the procedure Carlos woke up because he felt excruciating pain.

The BBC reports that the mix up occurred as a result of wrong paperwork being completed at the scene of the accident. Apparently, officials signed a form requesting an autopsy for Camejo who was unconscious instead of a form requesting treatment for injuries. Venezuelan authorities report that the two forms look almost identical and can easily be confused.

Camejo's wife came to the morgue to identify her husband's body only to find him alive with his autopsy form stuffed in his trousers.

Venezuelan man wakes up during autopsy

On Sept. 5, 2007, the President of the United States made the following declaration: “Now, therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim Sept. 9 through Sept. 15, 2007, as National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week. I call upon public officials, educators, librarians and all the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities in respect and appreciation for the contributions these valuable institutions and their graduates have made to our country.” He then promised increased federal support for these institutions.

Way before this, SC State had been diligently working on a plan for a number of years to diversify its portfolio of students. Programs have been put in place to make the university not only attractive to African Americans, but also Whites, Hispanics and all other ethnic groups. Diversity has been part of SC State’s long-term strategic plan.

As a show of this commitment, we were proud to boast of one particular student, Aaron Robinson, who serves as president of the Beta Delta chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., a historically black fraternity and service organization. Robinson is also the chapter’s first white member. He is a senior criminal justice major from Canada and also a member of the university’s golf team.

NBC News correspondent Michael Okwu visited SC State recently to interview Robinson and Antonio Boyle, assistant vice president for enrollment management, for a segment on diversity at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. On Wednesday, Sept. 19, he was also featured on NBC Nightly News.

We salute you, Aaron Robinson, and we salute SC State’s commitment to diversity.


Powerful earthquake strikes Indonesia, prompts tsunami alert

JAKARTA, Indonesia - A strong earthquake hit the western coast of Indonesia’s Sumatra island Oct. 2, prompting authorities to temporarily issue a tsunami alert.

The quake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.4 struck nearly 100 miles off the coast of the town of Bengkulu, the Meteorological and Geophysics Agency said.

There was no sign of large waves reaching the coast and authorities lifted the tsunami alert after one hour.

The U.S. Geological Survey put the strength at a weaker 6.2 magnitude.

A series of powerful earthquakes in the same region last month killed 23 people and damaged or destroyed thousands of buildings.

There were no immediate reports of deaths, injuries or damage from Tuesday’s trembler.

Indonesia, the world’s largest archipelago, is prone to seismic upheaval due to its location on the so-called Pacific “Ring of Fire,” an arc of volcanos and fault lines encircling the Pacific Basin.

A massive earthquake and subsequent tsunami on Dec. 26, 2004, killed more than 131,000 people in Indonesia’s Aceh province and left a half-million homeless.
Dead Curious!

Round Up Editor Adaeze Oputa ponders about life at SC State, the latest music news and the strange world of entertainment

• What is going on with Housing and Residence Life, and does anybody think they kind of bit off more than they could chew?
• Since South Carolina State University has admitted so many students, why have they refused to provide more parking spaces?
• Why has Earle Hall been opened back up with little or no renovation?
• Were you shocked when you saw SC State on the evening news?
• How jealous were you when you saw Ciara and 50 Cent together in her new video?
• Aren’t you just tired of hearing about Lindsay Lohan’s drug problems? I think there are more important issues like Paris Hilton’s jail term…
• Why is Spears trying so hard to make a comeback? Shouldn’t she stick to what she knows best: making babies?
• Is Kim Porter back with Diddy Combs again? Can’t they just make up their minds?
• Did anyone think Shaq and his wife were really not going to last?
• Does anyone know that mind freak guy (yea, Chris Angel)? Is he really going out with Spears?

Q: I’m a freshman at SC State. Before I came to college, I promised my boyfriend of three years that I would never cheat on him and in the first week of that I was here, I broke the promise I made to him more than once. I feel so ashamed and guilty. Do you think I should tell him, and what should I do with the other guys, because now they think I’m promiscuous.

A: Wow! To be honest with you, that is promiscuous behavior at its best, but we’re not here to judge you. We think you should tell your boyfriend exactly what happened, because if you don’t, two things will happen: Karma will definitely come back strong for you and if he finds out, it’s definitely over. So, just suck it up, sit him down and tell him everything. He might be hurt and it might take a long time for the both of you to get over it, but if he loves you, he’ll stick around.

Q: I’m a sophomore in SC State and since my freshman orientation, I’ve been trying to get one of the cutest guys in my department to notice me. He is about to graduate now and I think I need to try harder to get his attention, or else I’ll keep thinking of what could have been. How should I get him to notice me?

A: Chances are if he still hasn’t noticed you by now, he’s not going to. But don’t lose hope! There is a glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel. This is what you should do: pick a day that you’re definitely sure you’ll come across him for five minutes or more, wear your cutest dress (nothing too revealing), make sure your hair is nice and your make up is immaculate. When you see him, smile to get his attention, walk up to him and introduce yourself. Don’t sound too desperate, of course, and if it doesn’t kick off from there, then he’s not interested.

POETRY CORNER

Language of the Soul

By MOSES O. BELL
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

I long to leap to the highest level of divinity
Then relentlessly multiply that by infinity in
Order to advance an inch closer
To the Almighty’s vicinity.

Moving in the direction that I need to go
While reaching deep within my soul.
It’s the feeling of original
Poetry flowing from me

In a manner that can only be described as
Explosively.

During this pilgrimage in which I wish
To find my purpose,
I want to travel deep within my soul
But I’ve barely scratched the surface.

So I flee from negativity, expeditiously
And cruise towards the light
That shines brighter then the sun
In the middle of the night.

One day the goal will be met.
The destination will be reached.
A form of spiritual expression that’s
Much deeper than speech.

After the facts of life
Have all taken their toll.
We may forever communicate through the
LANGUAGE OF THE SOUL.

If you would like to use this, or any of Bell’s po-
ems, contact him by e-mail, at mbezy06@yahoo.com.

Know How to Keep Someone
You Love

By SHAKENNA STEPHENS
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Never criticize your man, or a woman
Always be faithful,
Be open minded and kind,
Stay passion of a friendship,
Cure the sexuality of the heart,
Make a deep affection
Then love will last forever!