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JOHN C. LIVAS • THE BATTALION

Jonas Wells, a sophomore political science and psychology major, pulls off this backwards Atlanta Braves hat well. Although he is wearing a Braves jersey and hat, it is not uncommon to pair brands from differing teams. But no matter what you mix and match, you should make sure the colors are coordinated.

Hip-hop

Continued from page 3

"Hip-hop fashion really reflects the creativity of the culture. People speak through what they wear, and a lot of the fashions are cyclical, like what was hot in 1979 comes back again in different forms, like Chuck Taylors for example," Coleman said. "It's sometimes about taking something plain and making it special."

It is not just the music that makes the culture. There are five traditional elements to it: turntableism, break dancing, graffiti writing, MCing and hip-hop knowledge. Coleman said there are often pragmatic reasons why those who participate in the culture wear what they do.

"For a B-boy (break dancer), a three-piece suit wouldn't work because you couldn't move enough," Coleman said. "The graffiti artists would wear hoodies and Timberland work boots because that was the necessary gear. There was something to be said for homogeneity as it was a good thing to look like everyone else in the backyard graffiti writing."

Coleman had his first encounter with hip-hop fashion in 1980 Georgia when he made friends with some stylish people from New Jersey and New York whose style he emulated. From Converse All Stars to Air Jordans, shoes have always played an important role in hip-hop fashion, and there used to be a difference between shoes and sneakers.

"At the time, there was a big thing of the sneakers versus the shoes. The sneakers were the cats who went to the park, went to block parties, and there wasn't a dress code because they couldn't afford it," Coleman said. "The shoes were the disco crowd, who could afford things that the sneaker crowd couldn't afford. When the sneakers got enough economic power, they no longer wore sneakers. They are both vital, and it was the sneakers who introduced the shoes to rap music."

Shorty Dawg, a local MC and sophomore philosophy major who is currently working on a third mix tape and has already recorded a demo, said he is fan of Air Force Ones and Jordans.

"I like baggy jeans with white T-shirts," Shorty said. "A lot of people are into dog tags because they can't afford to play change (diamonds), so they just get silver. I also like the color in my shoes to match my hat."

Chelcie Wesley, a graduate student in sociology, first noticed the white T-shirt trend when she was out in Philadelphia.

"White T-shirts have become the fashion," Wesley said. "There is no wardrobe, it's economical because you can just go buy a pack of Hanes to match your Chuck's. The jeans are also more decorated now."

Wesley said shoes are also important in new women's fashions as women, who are a part of hip-hop culture, are sporting bright colored pumps and cutoff sweatshirts, and she has even seen boots with leg warmers attached.

"It's the 80s, without the hair," Coleman said.

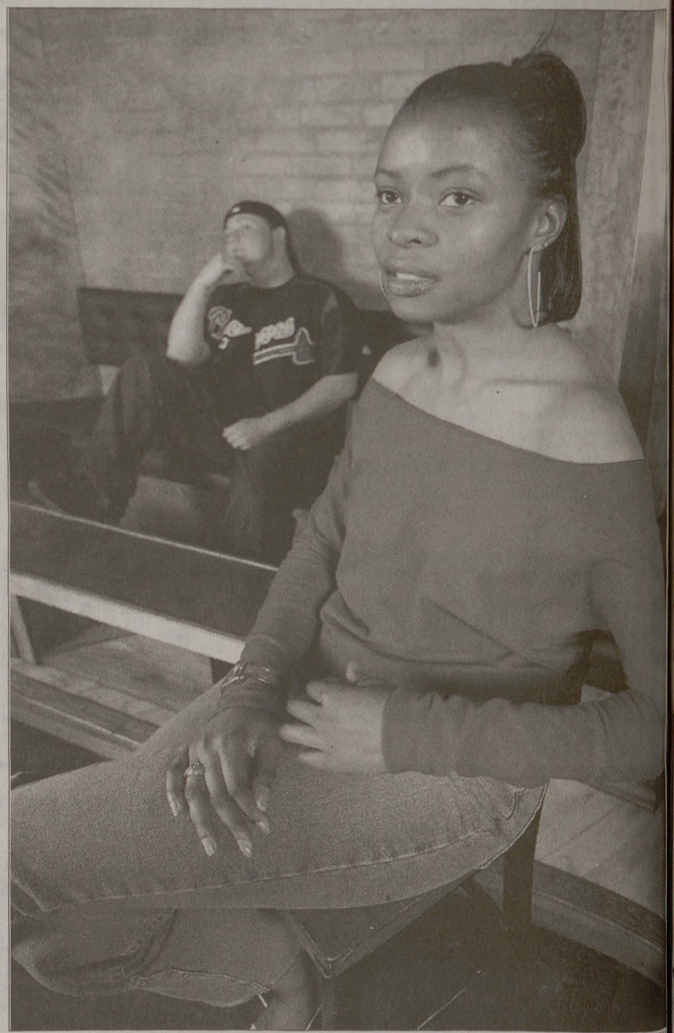
While the presence of a hip-hop culture on A&M's campus is not exactly obvious, Williams and other members of the Hip-Hop Society are working to cultivate one.

"Learning about the elements of hip-hop culture is pertinent to studying identity in general," Williams said. "This is a neat avenue to share knowledge."

The society held its first breakout session last Friday at Rumson where poets and MCs performed. Williams said the society hopes to hold one big event each month, including an MC Battle possibly in collaboration with Prairie View A&M.

"Hip-hop is a vehicle to first off understand who you are and be able to define yourself in a context that takes the bigger picture into consideration," Williams said. "As a culture, it's big and it's global, it transcends race and economic status. Hip-hop even has political power, a huge power lying dormant that could go throughout the world with an epicenter at A&M, a goal we are shooting for."

BATT LINKS
more photos @:
www.thebatt.com



JOHN C. LIVAS • THE BATTALION

Chelcie Wesley's red off-the-shoulder shirt fits perfectly with her red inspired pumps. Wesley, a philosophy graduate student, adds big hoop earrings to dress up the outfit as well.

Worship Directory

Assembly of God

Bethel Temple Assembly of God
2608 Villa Maria,
Bryan
776-4835
Sunday Worship 10:15
Sunday School 9:00
www.betheltemplebcs.com

Baptist

Parkway Baptist Church
1501 Southwest Pkwy
(979) 693-4701
Sunday Worship 10:45 am & 6 pm
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Meal 5:15 pm, College Bible Study 6:30 pm
www.pbccs.org

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college@fellowshipfb.org
<http://www.fellowshipfb.org>

Catholic

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www.aggiecatholic.org
Pastoral Team
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Rev. Keith Koehl, Associate Pastor
- Campus Ministers -
Deacon Bill Scott, Deacon David Reed,
Martha Tonn, Julia Motekaitis
Dawn Rouen, Roel Garza
Daily Masses
Mon.-Fri.: 5:30 p.m. in the Church
Tues. & Thurs.: 12:05 p.m. in the
All Faiths Chapel
Weekend Masses
Sat: 2:00 p.m. (Korean),
5:30 p.m. (English), 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)
Sun.: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.,
5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Confessions
Wed. 8:30-9:30 p.m., Sat. 4:00-5:15 p.m.
or by appointment.

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900 South Ennis, Bryan
823-5451
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Robert D. Chandler, Minister

Episcopal

St. Thomas Episcopal
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696-1726
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and 11:15 (Rite II-for late sleeping A&M)
7:30 p.m. Evensong
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Lutheran

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693-4403 • www.peacelutheranweb.com
Sunday
8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School
9:30 a.m.
Aggie Lutherans

Methodist

A&M United Methodist
417 University Dr. (in Northgate) • 846-8731
Sunday Worship: 8:30, 9:45, 10:50
College Sunday School: 9:30, 10:45
Thursday Nights: 5:30 - University Choir
6:30 - FREE Supper, 7:00 - College Bible Study
www.am-umc.org/college

Methodist

**First United
Methodist Church
Bryan**
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