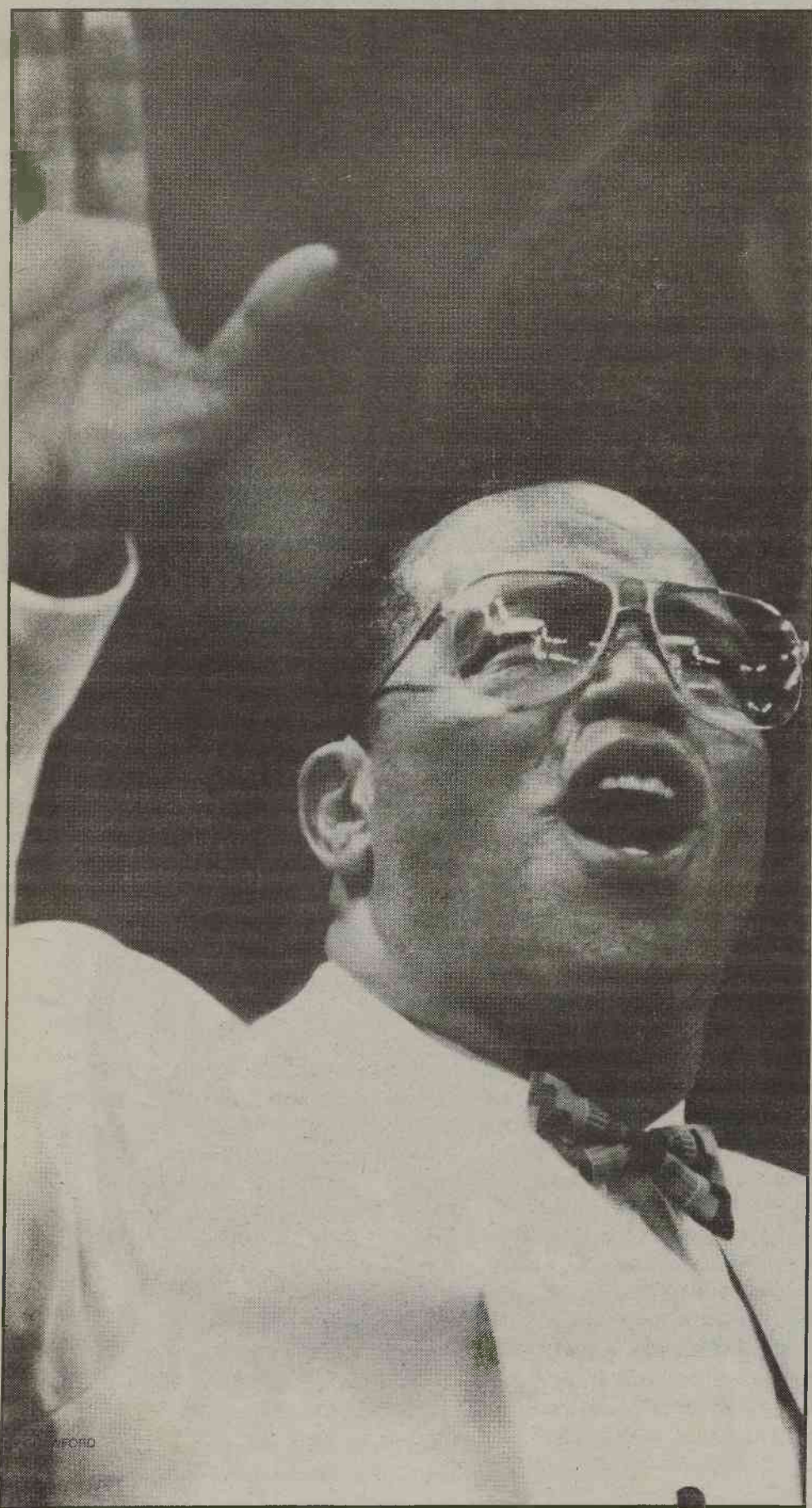


# Perspectives On Louis Farrakhan



Louis Farrakhan. The name evokes many different things in many different people. There are those who revere him, and see him as the answer to the prayers of this troubled African-American society. Others, however, say that with his overpowering charisma, growing population of followers and hints of anti-semitism, he is reminiscent of Hitler.

Regardless of what one thinks of him, the fact that his teachings are having a visible effect on the African-American community is indisputable. Last week, on November 9 at North Carolina A&T University, several thousand people waited in the rain in order to hear Farrakhan speak. The people came from all different walks of life. As you will see by the commentaries here, the impressions left by Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam are very diverse

## An Objective Point of View

By Chris Bracey  
Contributor

It was a cold, rainy Friday evening. The wind was blowing violently, and the rain soaked right through my clothes, chilling me right down to the core. There I was, among thousands of my black brothers and sisters, waiting in anticipation outside the Corbet Sports Center on the campus of North Carolina A&T to hear a black man speak what he considers "The Truth". This man was Minister Louis Farrakhan, the infamous leader and spokesman for the Nation of Islam. After a one hour delay, I was shoved through a single doorway by the anxious crowd, had my ticket snatched out of my hand, and had my body searched repeatedly from head to toe, quite thoroughly I might add. But I did not care for what I was about to witness-- Brother Farrakhan sharing his vast insight and knowledge to thousands of eager minds. There were some preliminary speakers and token acts of gratitude, but my mind was thinking about all of the knowledge that was in store for me. Suddenly, it was time. After a short introduction, a little, light-skinned man with glasses and a nice suit approached the podium. My

eyes opened wide as a hush fell over the crowd. I was ready. And then he opened his mouth.

"What did he say? Oh, I know he didn't say that! Oh, you must be kidding! Please!" These were my guttural responses to the rhetoric he espoused. Maybe I am being a little presumptuous, but it would seem that Louis Farrakhan thinks black college students today are so gullible that we will believe anything he says, even when he blatantly contradicts himself. It was so obvious, at least to me, that Minister Farrakhan either could not make up his mind, thought we were as foolish as he sounded, or thought that we would be too wrapped up in his presence to listen accurately to what he was saying. Whatever his rationale was, it certainly insulted my intelligence and I am sure it did not sit too well with others.

What did he say that was so wrong as to turn me into a harsh critic? Well, during his lecture, he began ranting and raving over how there is a certain arrogance in American leadership, including African-American leadership. He said that this arrogance made contemporary black leadership repugnant and that there is no place for it in the leadership