Written by Staff Writer
Friday, 01 February 2013 08:40 -

Orangeburg, S.C. – Feb. 8, 1968 is a date that will be indelibly stamped in the minds of the people of Orangeburg, S.C. and South Carolina. On this date, SC State University students, Henry Smith and Samuel Hammond, along with 19-year-old Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School student, Delano Middleton, were slain when at least nine South Carolina Highway Patrol Officers fired shots into a crowd of people protesting segregation at a local bowling alley. 28 students were wounded during the horrific incident.

This year, SC State will host two events to commemorate the lives of those who fought for justice in the South. On Friday, Feb. 8, 2013, SC State will host a panel discussion entitled, "the impact that the Orangeburg Massacre had on college campuses in 1968 and the importance that it still has on students today," at 10 a.m. in the Dr. Barbara A. Vaughan Fine Arts Recital Hall. Panelists include, Dr. Cleveland Sellers, president of Voorhees College in Denmark, S.C., Dr. Scott Brown, associate professor of History at the University of California, Los Angeles, Calif, Dr. Emma McCain, retired educator and SC State student in 1968 and Dr. Jack Bass, co-author of "The Orangeburg Massacre." At 3 p.m., the University will host a commemoration ceremony honoring the lives involved in the Orangeburg Massacre, as well as the families of Smith, Hammond and Middleton.

This year’s commemoration, taking place in the SC State University Memorial Plaza, will feature remarks by Mr. Jordan Simmons, III. Simmons was one of those injured during the Orangeburg Massacre. He will share his intense recollections of the ordeal during the commemorative ceremony.

The lives that were affected on that historic day will be featured in a one hour documentary, entitled, "Scarred Justice: The Orangeburg Massacre 1968," on Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013 at 9 p.m. on ETV. For additional information on this year's events contact the Office of University Relations and Marketing, at (803) 536-7061.