

# Young Dems organize at WSSU

Students at WSSU are "fired up" about working for the Democratic party, according to Reginald McCaskill, president of the newly-formed Young Democrats of America.

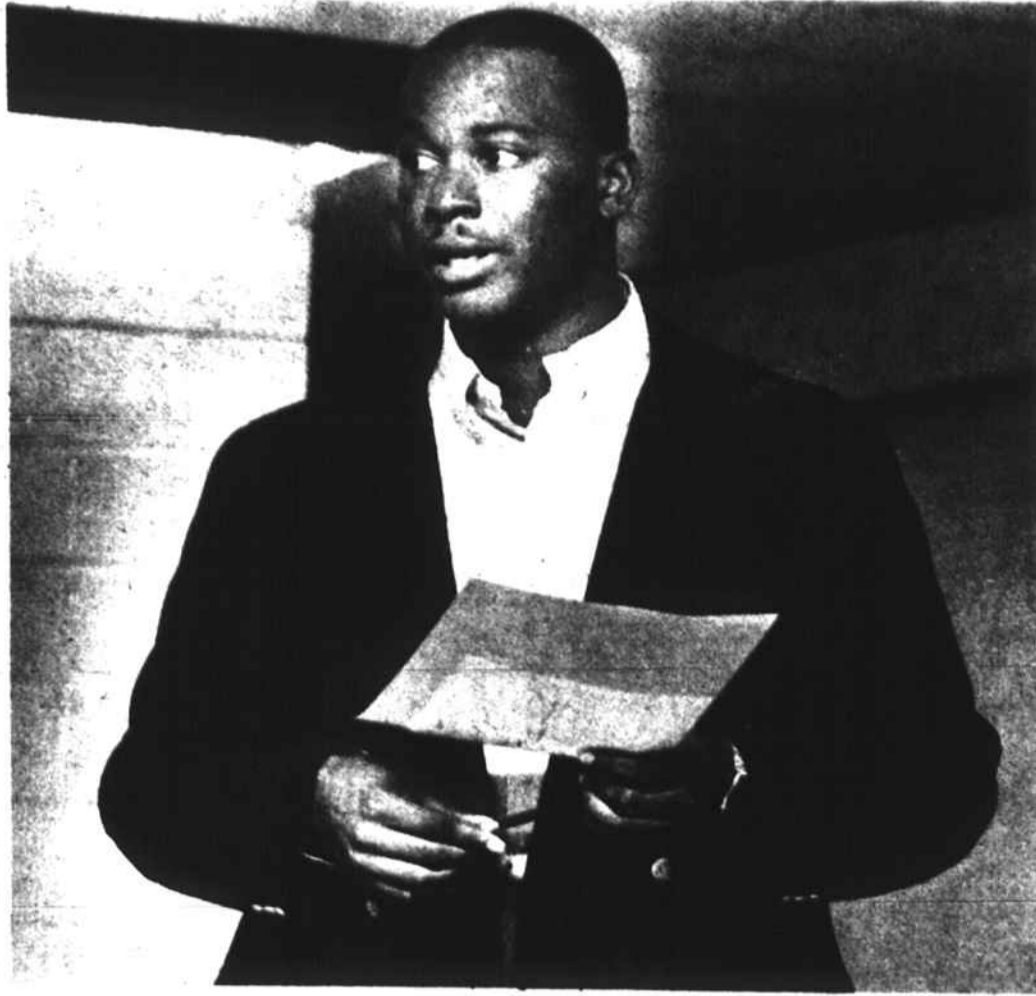
McCaskill, a senior, along with Earline Parmon, chairman of the Democratic Party of Forsyth County, formed the new chapter of Young Democrats on September 4, 1984.

This being an election year, McCaskill says he felt compelled to do something to help the party. As a result, he decided to organize the YDA, whose main objective is to help the Democratic Party with voter registration. "We want to give students an early orientation of what the Democratic Party is all about."

McCaskill estimates that of the 2,400 students who attend Winston-Salem State University, less than 1,000 are registered voters. To increase these numbers, the YDA holds voter registration on campus each Friday night.

With a membership of only about 30, the workload often gets pretty heavy for McCaskill. However, he says providing college students with this firsthand knowledge of the Democratic Party has been just reward for his efforts.

When asked about her affiliation with the YDA, Parmon said she felt it was time the WSSU students were made aware of their political power. Numbering



Reginald McCaskill, president of the Winston-Salem State University Young Democrats Club, is excited about the group's upcoming voter registration drive (photo by James Parker).

more than 2,000, these students could make an impact on the election. Parmon says she is very excited about the newly-formed organization and feels the YDA at WSSU is going to be very strong.

They have already become chartered members of the national YDA and are working very hard to get more students registered to vote. They plan to drive voters to the polls and answer telephones at the party

headquarters. They will participate in a 90-mile run for Gov. Jim Hunt's senatorial campaign. The run will touch 71 schools. Each school will be responsible for supplying 15 runners to carry an Olympic-style torch.

Soon WSSU's Young Democrats of America will sport T-shirts expressing their theme: Young Democrats of America Young, but serious -- our time has come.



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## Profile

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"There simply isn't anybody producing the works of black writers," he said. "And, black writers are the only ones who can interpret the black experience."

Thomas said he is confident about his ability as an actor, although he is not the arrogant type. "I really believe in myself as an actor," he said.

"There will be a point where I mature into an actor and will be ready for the big opportunity when it comes along."

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By Gregory Davis

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