

Community

WSSU Nursing School Receives \$1 Million Gift

By MARK R. MOSS
Chronicle Staff Writer

In what school officials said may be the largest donation ever given to a state-supported nursing program, Winston-Salem State University announced Tuesday a \$1-million endowment from a donor who asked that he remain anonymous.

A beaming Cleon F. Thompson, the school's chancellor, made the "historical announcement" in front of the F.L. Atkins Nursing Building and before a sizable gathering of students, school officials and media. He described the gift as the largest "ever given to this school."

The moment he announced the \$1 million endowed gift, the crowd burst into applause.

"I'm sure the students applauded because a major portion will be used for student scholarships," Thompson said, smiling at

them.

The faculty applauded, he added, because the contribution will also be used for "academic support."

Thompson said that the donor's decision to make the contribution was influenced by his wife's hospitalization and the nurses who "assisted her so well." Besides their other important responsibilities, nurses "make you feel good," the donor told Thompson.

Thompson said that the donor was "particularly proud" of the "zest and zeal" by which the community supported the school's nursing program.

The nursing program has, indeed, come a long way. In 1990 the president of the University of North Carolina system, C.D. Spangler Jr., threatened to close the nursing program to all but registered nurses seeking a bachelor's degree. Under Spangler's proposed program, licensed registered nurses would not

have had to take the nursing board exam.

The school's nursing board passing rates had been so low for so long that they had become an embarrassment to the university system. But restricting the program would have denied high school graduates and others — like paramedics and licensed, practical nurses — the opportunity to pursue a degree in nursing — the same students the school has been attracting since it began in 1953.

In 1992, 96 percent of the class passed the nursing board exam.

Thanks to the efforts of concerned alumni and a new director, Dr. Sylvia Flack, Spangler gave the nursing program a second chance.

Flack told the crowd that she never doubted what "we could do with the nursing program."

"Oh yes," she exclaimed, "this is a proud day for us! With this gift we will be able to produce a state-

of-the-art program second to none," she added.

Thompson refused to disclose much about the nursing school's benefactor. When pressed, the chancellor said the man was a white North Carolinian. Thompson said the donor wishes to remain anonymous because he doesn't want to be "bombed" with other solicitations.

Jessie Draft, a 1982 graduate of the nursing school, cornered a reporter and told the story about how she and other alumni were "out there beating the streets" to save the nursing program three years ago. She said she passed out fliers and wrote letters in an effort to persuade Spangler to give the school a second chance.

"I'm so ecstatic," she said.

She then introduced her daughter, Sabrina Dobson, who is a WSSU sophomore and a student in the nursing program.

Creating Healthy Family Ties Increases Self-Esteem

Healthy families are not only committed to promoting the happiness and welfare of individual family members, but they are also committed to the family as a group. They perceive their family to be worthy and unique and are proud to be a part of it. Just as it is beneficial for an individual to have high self-esteem, it is also valuable for a family to feel good about itself as a group. Central to what gives a family a sense of pride, worthiness and uniqueness is its family traditions.

A family tradition is any activity or event that occurs with the same regularity and holds a special meaning for a family. It can be as simple as a parent's nightly reading of a bedtime story or as elaborate as a yearly family trip to grandma's house, a reunion, birthday parties, anniversary celebrations, the Labor Day cookout or holiday dinners.

The existence of family legends and traditions can make a family feel special and unique. They can serve as unifying themes around which family members can unite and celebrate. Family traditions can help to make a family more cohesive. Because the shared meanings of these occasions and activities are usually understood and enjoyed by the family alone, they can create feelings of warmth, closeness and specialness.

In a changing world, traditions can also provide a stable anchor that fosters a sense of continuity, connectedness and meaning. This can be particularly important for children who need stability in their world to help them understand it.

Traditions, especially those that have been passed down through the generations, can provide a family with a link to its past. This can help family members understand and affirm the thread of continuity that has contributed to making the individual and the family the unique people they are.

An appreciation and reverence for the past also demonstrates to elders — parents, grandparents and other older kin — a respect and value for where they have been and what they have done. It helps to confirm the meaning and value of the life lived thus far by the older generation. For example, the life of grandparents can be given renewed meaning and significance by a grandchild's interest in and appreciation of past deeds and events.

Traditions should be enjoyable and bring family members together, sometimes, however, a tradition outlives its usefulness or evokes resentment, boredom, discomfort or indifference. If such is the case, it may be time to retire the tradition.

Although many traditions are tied to the past, they need not be old traditions. They can be developed to fit with the family's lifestyle and values. What makes a tradition valuable is that it is meaningful, enjoyable and brings the family together. If these criteria are met and the activities are repeated, new family traditions can be created.

As individual family members grow and families change, the value

of traditions and pride in one's family also change. There is evidence that a family feels most unique and proud when children are young, and changes take place when children are teen-agers or have recently left home. Family traditions and identity can be valuable all through life, but they may be especially important when children are young.



HOME ECONOMICS

By JOANNE J. FALLS



ENTIRE STOCK LEVI'S DENIM SALE

- **YOUNG MEN, 29.99**
Save 25%. Choose from 501™ button fly, 550™ relaxed fit, 560™ loose fit and 505™ regular fit jeans. 100% cotton in bleach, stone and black. Reg. \$42-\$44
- **JUNIORS, 34.99-39.99**
Choose from 501™ original button fly, 512™ slim fit, 525™ boot leg and 560™ loose fit denim jeans. Sizes 5-13. Reg. \$36-\$46
- **BOYS, 20% OFF**
Choose from 506™ straight leg, 550™ relaxed fit and 560™ loose fit. 100% cotton in blue, black and colors. Boys' 8-14 reg./slim, student waists 27-30. Reg. 27.99-34.99, SALE 22.39 to 27.99
- **KIDS, 20% OFF**
Choose from our collection of Levi's® jeans, skirts, jackets and tops for children. Infants' 12-24 mos., toddlers' 2T-4T, boys' 4-7, girls' 4-14. Reg. 11.99-29.99, SALE 9.59 to 23.99
- **MISSES, 25% OFF**
Save on our collection of Levi's® jeans for misses. Choose from 521™ tapered fit, 551™ relaxed fit and 561™ loose fit. Available in sizes 6-16. Reg. \$42, SALE \$31.49



LABOR DAY SALE

HECHT'S

Regular and Original prices are offering prices only and may or may not have resulted in sales. Advertised merchandise may be available at sale prices in upcoming sale events.

SHOP THURSDAY 10 A.M. TO 9 P.M., FRIDAY 10 A.M. TO 10 P.M.

WHY OUTSPEND YOUR NEIGHBORS WHEN YOU CAN OUTSMART THEM INSTEAD.



Stock #9713

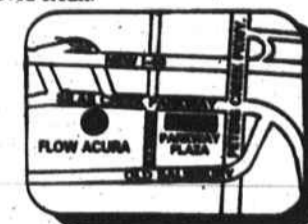
1994 Acura Integra RS

Lease to own for only **\$23994** per month

ONLY 30 MONTHS INCLUDES AIR CONDITIONING!

30 month closed end lease with option to purchase for \$11,039.80 at lease end. 12,000 mile per year allowance. Total payments \$7,198.20. \$1000 Cap. Cost Reduction. First payment, refundable security deposit, taxes and license due at delivery. On approved credit.

FLOW



FLOW IMPORTS

425 Silas Creek Parkway • Winston-Salem

(919) 723-3524

Conveniently Located Just Off New I-40.