

# WSSU Grows

By Lynette Hampton

More students are enrolled at Winston-Salem State University this year than ever before. And an increasing number of them are white.

William Eagles, director of the Research Department said the percentage of white students has increased from one percent in 1968 to about eight percent this year.

Last spring the school's white enrollment was seven percent, but rose to over 10½ percent during the 1975 summer session. During the summer sessions, Eagles said, the minority enrollment tended to increase in all the schools in the consolidated University of North Carolina system, whatever the racial majority at the school.

Winston-Salem State has a number of students continuing their studies after graduation. A survey, conducted among the 1971 and 1974 graduating classes, showed that nearly all the respondents were engaged in graduate training. Of those responding, 87 percent were employed in fields relating to their majors.

In recent years there has been a noticeable shift from the choosing of a major in Teachers Education, to majors in business, nursing, and the more salable skills relating to today's job market. Four new majors, medical technology, urban affairs, applied sciences, and

psychology, were added to the curriculum in 1974. Eagles said these trends are expected to continue.

The record enrollment for this fall, approximately 2,055, has created another housing problem on the campus—similar to the one last year.

To help relieve the crowded conditions, more than 160 male students, mostly freshmen, are living in a makeshift dormitory in the old North Carolina Advancement School on East Third Street, off campus. Men will live there until another dormitory can be built on the campus.

One of the physical changes on the campus that Eagles noted, is the Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium, which was completed earlier this year. The new structure, which seats 1,800, replaces the old Fries Auditorium that collapsed in 1969 during a rainstorm.

Eagles said, the new building will be used extensively. "The impact of its importance to the school and the community is yet to be felt", he said.

"With a continuous increase in the faculty, new program offerings to meet the needs of the students and community, and a continual growth in size," Eagles said, "Winston-Salem State University, as an institution, will not only be able to serve more people in the future but will continue to serve them better."

## Support The Rams

# The Guys Say "Its The Best!"

by Janet Brower

Steady increase in the enrollment of students at Winston-Salem State University had presented serious problems in housing. The influx of young ladies last year deleted Bickett Hall as a major dormitory for men.

This school year has not changed the situation. In fact, it has reached the point where another building had to be secured to house male students.

Third Street dormitory is not to be regarded as just a building. It is an important, functioning part of WSSU.

Third Street can be regarded as a campus within itself for it has most of the facilities that the main campus has. There is a full time cafeteria staff that prepares three meals a day.

The dormitory is also staffed with three dorm supervisors, a

coordinator for the men's residence living and a full-time maintenance supervisor. Security is provided from 4 p.m. to 8 a.m. The dorm also has a laundry room and a small study.

There are approximately 166 men at Third Street, the majority of whom are freshmen. There are several upperclassmen, most of whom are residence hall assistants. James (Trent) Rawley, an assistant, says he likes it at Third Street. He doesn't feel as though he's missing anything by not living on the main campus, he said, and all of the guys get along well.

Dean Donald Benson explained that a conference with students lead to the decision as to who would be housed at Third Street. It appeared he said, that upperclassmen would object to the sudden change and that



Ruby Byrd relaxing in the dorm.

photo by Bailey

## White Student Loves Campus Life

By Lynette Hampton

When Ruby Byrd's three children grew up and left home, she contemplated joining the Peace Corps. But instead, she chose to seek a degree in nursing at Winston-Salem State University.

Mrs. Byrd, who is white, is now a resident student in Bickett Hall on the school campus.

"This is my second year living on campus and I just love it," she said. "The students in my dorm come to me to talk over their problems and I've grown to care a great deal about them."

Mrs. Byrd said she decided to live on campus, "because I found it easier to stay here than maintain an apartment and become a day student."

She said she became a widow several years ago and had raised her three children on her own. She became a LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse), and worked on the staff at Forsyth Hospital in Winston-Salem.

Asked how she felt about living on a predominately black

campus, Mrs. Byrd said; "Sometimes it's lonely, but my roommate helps a lot. She's a delightful girl from Wilmington and we get along just fine." She said she spends some of the weekends off campus with a daughter.

Mrs. Byrd works in the school infirmary and says she likes the job. She plans to remain at Winston-Salem State until she gets her degree. She is now a junior.

Later, she said, she wants to come back as a part-time student and take some other courses.

"There are so many courses that I find interesting and I want to take advantage of," she said.

Convenience of the school's location and low cost of tuition were the reasons most often given when a number of white students were asked recently why they elected to attend Winston-Salem State University. Other reasons were, getting a scholarship, the types of courses offered, and personal

recommendations from friends. One woman said, "My neighbor and I were talking at the fence and one day she said, 'Lets go back to college and finish our education' and I said, 'Okay' and here we are."

A majority of the white women on campus are nursing majors but some of the other majors are being taken by the men and a few women.

Only three of the students interviewed said they wished they had selected other schools. But two of them plan to complete their courses here.

All the white students said they felt completely at ease on this predominately black campus. They said that if their presence was resented they had yet to feel it. Some said they had developed friendships with black students and others said that age difference, more than race stood in the way of close friendships. (Many of the white students are older than the average age of college students as a whole.)

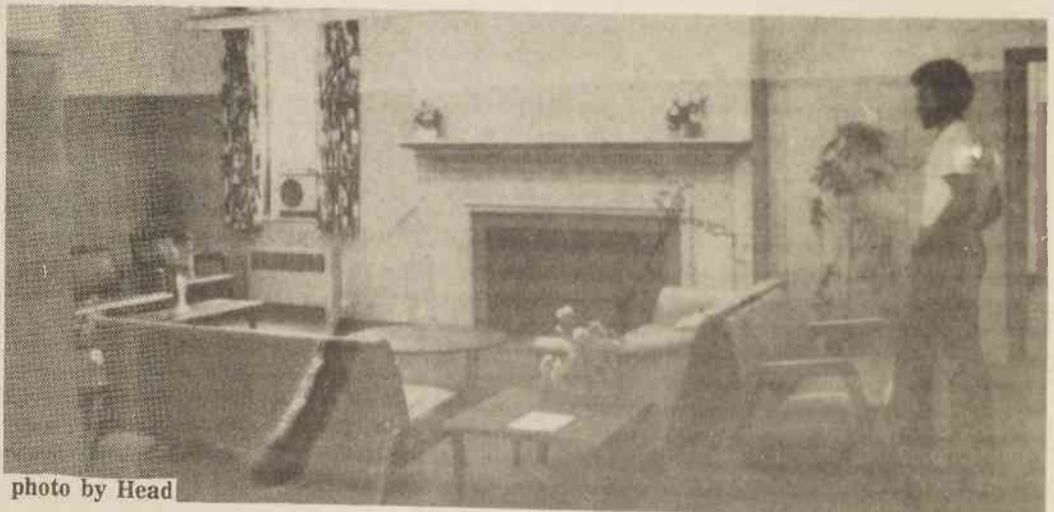


photo by Head

freshmen would adjust better.

This is not the feeling of some of the freshmen however. Haywood Armstrong, a freshman from Laurinburg, N.C. feels that

they are at a disadvantage because they do not have a chance to get thoroughly acquainted with the campus and the students. Upperclassmen know most of the students and they know what is happening, he said.

When asked if any serious complaints had been made,

Benson said that "complaints are normal as far as the dorm is concerned. By this I mean complaints have been made about such things as water leaking or broken locks. The biggest problem at this point is our shuttle bus service, which leaves Third Street at fifteen minutes before the hour and it leaves the main campus on the hour from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m."

The students feel this problem will get worse when cold weather sets in because the bus is not large enough to transport all of the students. Presently, many of them are walking the 10 to 15 minute distance.

There are as many as six students to a room. Each room

has its own bath and shower.

The guys have adjusted to the Third Street dorm beautifully. Irwin Allen, a freshman from Greensboro, says "It's like our own little campus. We have everything here except girls."

Recreational facilities include a gymnasium which stays open until 12 and 1 o'clock, a baseball diamond, a weight-training room, an air-conditioned game room, and a guest room and a lounge with televisions. There is also a fenced-in picnic area with tables and grills. There is a jukebox in the cafeteria.

When asked to compare Third Street with Brown Hall, Trent said, "Brown Hall is noisier, and one has no privacy. We have some advantages that the other students don't." For instance, he said, "we are just a short distance from Chicken and Honey and Burger King. There are phones on all four floors, individual mailboxes and a study in the dorm."

It is needless to say that the guys like it at Third Street.



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