

**Editorials . . . . .**

# Reasons Behind The Failure

During the past two years a vast majority of the Freshmen students at WSSU have had trouble passing the World Civilization course. Last semester was certainly no different in this aspect than previous ones. Most of the Freshmen students I came in contact with had either failing or near failing grades in the course. I began to wonder about the reasons for this and I decided to talk to the students and visit the lecture sessions to find out what the problems were. I knew that at least a portion of these students had the academic ability to obtain better grades and it puzzled me that they were unable to do so.

The lecture session took place in the auditorium, and it was not long after I entered one of these sessions that I began to understand why students fail. The auditorium was literally packed with students. The teacher stood on stage and lectured. The instructor went through the material as if he could care less whether the students understood or retained any of the information. It was as if the instructor were a tape recorder with a faulty rewind button. The students seemed extremely distracted and listless, and who wouldn't be with any and everything going on around them. The students engaged in a multitude of activities during the lecture session. These activities included sleeping, talking, telling jokes, attempted note taking, and even standing in the chairs. I am sure little if any learning takes place in this situation.

On another day of the week the Freshmen attend smaller classroom sessions to discuss questions they may have about the chapters being covered in World Civilization. Once I found this out I felt the students might have a little more hope of obtaining a decent grade, but I was mistaken. In talking with Freshmen students I found out that often the test may cover chapters 12-17, for example and in the discussion session students cover chapter 9. Who wouldn't find it hard to pass under these circumstances?

The university does have one redeeming grace in the set up of this course. There are several practice tests that students may obtain to help them study for the actual test. The only problem with this is that these tests are only available to the SEP students. The tests all have questions that are worded very similar to one another and the students must choose the correct answer. This adds to the already difficult situation.

I am definitely no authority on learning, but I have been in enough learning situations to determine whether a class structure is conducive to learning or not. I feel that the structure of our World Civilization course is a deterrent to learning. I urge those persons responsible for the structure of the course to reevaluate it and stop cheating the Freshmen students.

I entered WSSU in 1974 when the World Civilization course was still taught in the traditional

classroom situation and I am quite sure that I learned and retained more information than the present Freshmen.

I feel that the purpose of change is to make things better and I don't feel that has happened in this case.

Cheryl Brandon

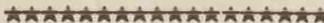
## RAMA Is

## Underway

Well Rams, it's that time of the year again. We hope that all you creative people are getting your thoughts together because "Rama" needs your poems, short stories, plays and prose.

Published yearly by the members of the English Department, Rama always proves to be the best literary magazine around... and why not? It is comprised of work from the most talented, motivating and unique people that can be found on a university.

Why not be a part of it all? Rama is a literary magazine to be proud of. Whatever thoughts you have, why not share them with someone else? Make Rama, one of your goals for 78. Use your talent wisely. You won't regret it!



# GOOD LUCK RAMS IN THE CIAA



## Poetry Corner

# CIAA Get Ready

Guess who's on the way  
Running,  
Jumping,  
Rebounding,  
and Hitting  
those baskets.  
They Just can't be beat  
They're  
out  
of  
sight  
All Right  
Rams  
Do  
Your  
Thing.

By: Garland S. Brice

### Peace of Time

Love Color  
  
Lemon  
Orange  
Violent  
Evergreen

By: Garland S. Brice

I wonder  
If I shall ever find  
My peace of time.  
A time that I can be  
truly at peace  
with the world  
and me.  
Times that I am without rush  
and hurry.  
Times without confusion and  
worry.  
I wonder  
If I shall ever see  
a time just right for me.

James I. Wilkins

### HE

He on the way back  
He number one  
He first and last  
He Alpha and Omega  
He the beginning and ending  
Have you tried him  
He all right

By: Garland S. Brice

### You Hold the Key

### Deeds

It doesn't really matter  
Who you love  
or just how you love  
but that you love.  
The act of loving anyone  
in the end  
is the act of loving God.

James I. Wilkins

It's high time we were ourselves.  
For all you are,  
You must be.  
The best person to  
live for is yourself  
considering the priorities.  
The past was earlier  
The future is now  
Begin the living,  
Living for you.  
You are the production  
of your very own soul.

James I. Wilkins

## A Message

I laughed a long time yesterday  
because Mrs. Hall  
Sent me a letter  
criticizing me  
and explaining to me things I should do  
in my struggle for Blackness  
she recalled a name to my mind  
Sadie  
Burned herself to death  
in front of the police station  
she poured  
gasoline  
on her clothes  
and lit a match to herself  
to illuminate the fact that  
justice is being ignored.  
She gave a gift of  
her own self  
To remind the rest of us that  
no matter what we are doing  
It's not enough

By: James I. Wilkins



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