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Winston-Salem State University

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Debated by Board:

New Admissions Policy: A Blessing or a Curse

By Jimmy R. Slade

Students applying for admission to Winston-Salem State University will soon be required to have the same minimum high school requirements as students at UNC, N.C. State or any of the other 16 schools that make up the University of North Carolina system. This new policy was adopted by the UNC Board of Governors and was the major topic of discussion at the recent WSSU Board of Trustees meeting.

The policy will start with applicants for the fall semester of 1983. Students entering the ninth grade this fall will be the first affected by it and they will have time to prepare for it.

The new policy will require that students seeking admission to WSSU or any of the UNC system schools have a high school diploma or its equivalent with core studies that include:

Four units of college preparatory English;

Three units of math, including Algebra I and II and geometry;

Two units of social studies, including one in U.S. history and the other in either government or economics, and

Three units in science, including at least one in a life science or biology, at least one in a physical science and one laboratory course.

The policy also recommends, but does not require, at least two units in a foreign language. It also recommended that high school students take one foreign language and one math course in their senior year.

The implementation of this program will call for some drastic changes in the admission standards at Winston-Salem State University. The present admission policy is weak in the areas of math, requiring only one unit, and in the area of science, also requiring only one unit.

The Board of Trustees of the university were basically pleased with the policy change. In their meeting most said it would help to attract higher quality students to the university as well as making sure that the students are prepared for college level work. "Only if the quality of education in the public schools is improved will this program work," said Mr. John Clark, a member of the Board.

On the negative side, Dr. Haywood Wilson, who presented the program on the change in policy, said that the new program may cut down on the number of students that go to college.

Whether this change is good or bad is yet to be answered but students have definite opinions on the issue. Most of the comments were positive, though some students expressed reservations about the policy change. As one student put it "this will help to bridge the gap between the white and black schools." Another student said that the new admission policy would "weed out the students that weren't serious about getting an education."

On the down side one student said that "The new admission policy would help to keep Blacks from going to college." Another student said that the new system would not guarantee a better prepared student body.

The effect that the new Admission policy will have on Winston-Salem State University is likely to be the subject of much debate on campus. The Administration is hoping that the new policies will decrease the need for remedial classes and is praying it will not decrease the university's enrollment. What the final effect will be only time will tell.

Member of Wilmington Ten

Political Activist Visits WSSU

By Angela Corbett

Before the termination of an inspiring Black History Month, WSSU students were honored with a presentation from Reverend Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., a member of the Wilmington Ten.

According to Rev. Chavis, blacks should become more involved in politics and the political scene. He said this may be accomplished by registering to vote and supporting black candidates. He also stated, "Blacks should strive to be the best they can, yet never forgetting their black heritage."

Although blacks are not too supportive of Jesse Jackson, Rev. Chavis is strongly advocating Jackson's candidacy. "Some black people say now is not the time for a black president, but it's now or never," he said. "Despite the odds that are cast against blacks we should strive for political excellency as well as achieving other goals in life."

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Lovely Jayne Kennedy was one of many fans that turned out for the CIAA Tournament in Norfolk, Va.

photo By Keith Hilliard

Atkins says No to Coed Visitation

By Ann Hawkins

In a recent vote, coed study and visitation privileges were banned in Atkins Hall.

"I think we should have it and the way it was decided wasn't fair. We should vote over," said LaVonda Propst, an Atkins resident.

Based solely on interviews with dorm residents, it is apparent that a vital part of coed privileges was forgotten. Sharon Jacobs stated, "The study part of coed visitation should have been emphasized more."

When the time for exams comes and studying could be done with male classmates, Atkins Hall will be at a disadvantage. Some Atkins coeds said often there are young men who have academic assistance to offer. "It would have been nice to study together. I feel that it would have been beneficial," said Linda Broadway.

Most of the young ladies interviewed agreed that the lobby of Atkins Hall is hardly a place fit to study. The lobby is crowded, uncomfortable, and has a tremendous amount of continuous noise.

While some of the young ladies seem happy about the decision, some are not and others don't seem to care either way.

Many of the young ladies interviewed who voted no seemed to have personal reasons for doing so. Regina Drakeford

said, "It isn't coed because we couldn't have outside visitors. It isn't fair to those students who don't have anyone on campus they would want to visit them. Some of us girls aren't into any guys up here."

Another concern the students expressed was for the lack of privacy. "The hours were too late and too long. Those hours are when females are really getting comfortable. There would have been a lack of privacy," stated Devetta Blount. Eneta Lucas added, "This is really a 'to each her own' situation but when I look at it from my point of view—I love the privacy that I have and will be able to keep."

Carol Brannon said that coed put unnecessary restrictions on her. Ms. Brannon stated, "I like doing what I want to do when I want to do it!"

Yet, there are some young ladies who feel like Ms. Terri Swain. She stated, "We don't need coed because there are too many wild girls in Atkins!" Sherita Marks agreed. "I'm glad we didn't get coed because of the reputation Atkins already has. Maybe this will show that a few bad apples didn't spoil the whole bunch," said Ms. Marks.

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