



Homecoming: What Happened?

By Terry Dunning,
Editor-In-Chief

This year, being my fourth and last Homecoming, I think maybe I expected to go out with a bang. Instead I got no Homecoming show and not many activities to attend. What is happening to Homecoming? Is the spirit just not there that used to be? My freshman and sophomore years were so much fun that I guess they spoiled me for my last 2 years. Winston-Salem State had groups like the SOS Band, Change, Starpoint, Frankie Beverly and Maze Cameo, and other class acts. Now the entertainment is not as good. As a matter of fact, we haven't had a show to speak of.

I personally feel that there needs to be an uplifting of campus enthusiasm. This year the entire attitude about Homecoming was not up to what it should have been. Can you believe that some people actually went home? Other students were saying that they were going to Homecoming at other school's! Now look, this just is not right. I think that Homecoming should be a time when Alumni & friends should be able to come back to their schools and have a nice time. This year the entertainment we were supposed to have (we didn't) were people that many alumni said they had never heard of. I would hate to have to go through another four years of Homecomings like these, so not just for my sake, lets get some key people (no names mentioned) to get on the ball and stop making excuses. I mean after all, after one Homecoming, you have a whole year before another one and we haven't had a show in 3 years so I know we have some money saved up. I tell you all what, we should have Stevie Wonder next year just to make up for the past. (And Earth, Wind and Fire).

On Black-On-Black Crime
By Edgar Simon, Jr.

We as blacks have too long entertained the notion that the high rate of crime that blacks commit against each other is a result of our disdain for each other.

My efforts in sorting out and interpreting the available statistics regarding race of offender by race of victim of major violent crimes reveals that Black Americans are responsible for approximately 53.2 percent are committed by youths under 18 years of age. Furthermore, it is revealed that most crimes committed by black people are against other blacks.

Now, a scant perusal of the statistics would stop here. However, this only scratches the surface of what can be realized if one was to diligently scrutinize and compare the figures.

Whether with or without intent, the available statistics, as interpreted by the various research entities, is myopic - tends to cloud the issue. A more indepth study shows that if a white person was to commit criminal homicidal, the odds are 8 to 1 that the person murdered would be white. On the other hand, if a black person was to commit the same act, the odds are 11 to 1 that the victim would be black. So, what this, in essence, tells us is that both races victimize members of their respective races more frequently than they do members of the opposite race. And, as you can gather from the figures, the margin is not considerable. This should serve to allay the longstanding myth that blacks, unlike other races, select members of their own race to victimize.

Furthermore, in none of the major crime categories have I found the case of whites victimizing blacks to a greater extent than they do whites. However, in both armed and unarmed robbery categories, it is found that blacks victimize whites at a rate 8 percent higher than they do members of the black race. Obviously, this is due to economics - whites tend to be in possession of more of what another person might want. Nonetheless, the subject is crime and robbery is one of the major crime categories.

The foregone dealt with the rate at which members of the black and white races victimized members of their respective races compared to the rate at which the respective races were victimizing members of the opposite race. Now let's take a look at the frequency issue. This takes us back to the aforementioned fact that blacks are responsible for approximately 53.2 percent of all violent crimes in the United States. This is a result of rage due to the prolonged oppression, deprivation and abuse experienced by Black Americans which fuels frustration, desperation, hostilities and, hence, crime activity. The additional ingredient of having the courts practice more leniency toward that individual who violates the rights of a black than they do that individual who does same of a white helps explain that 3 percent higher propensity of blacks to commit homicide involving blacks than whites, as revealed above.

Subject any race of people to such abominations and note the results. There clearly is no mystery to the statistics.

Eventhough whites are offending whites at a comparable percentage rate as blacks are offending blacks, blacks experience the greater loss because blacks commit offenses more frequently due to the rage brought on by their plight, which means that more blacks than whites die as a result.

The rationale behind the fact that a member of a given race who commits an offense is much more likely to victimize a member of his/her race is that we still live, to a great extent, in a racially segregated society. It is much more convenient to unleash one's anger in one's own neighborhood than it is to drive across town. Consider, also the fact that there is more social contact between members of a given race than there is to be found between members of the opposite races.

Consequently, the rationale behind the statistics is not that blacks concertedly seek out other blacks to kill or otherwise offend.

Letters to the Editor & Editorials

I've been told on numerous occasions that education is invaluable and most precious. However, the question is, where is it obtained? Both students and instructors agree that education is lost but no one seems to know where or how to find it.

It is my understanding that the foundation for higher learning should have been obtained prior to entering college. I contend that far too many times this has not been the case, and this tragedy is not necessarily the fault of the student.

Often I've overheard conversations in which instructors criticize their students academic performance. Ask yourselves are students learning under your instruction?

Most instructors have a vision of the perfect student dancing in their heads. Good students are not found they are made.

I believe each student can be exceptional with the help and guidance of a conscientious instructor. Holding a students' hand isn't necessary but encouragement. Misdread of threats of failure, is vital.

Those instructors who are not interested in education or educating should not be in the class room. If your interest lie elsewhere, go elsewhere for the sake of those students who have a desire to learn.

Every instructor is an artist, and every student an unfinished work of art. Instructors do have a choice, either they can get a hammer and chisel and create a masterpiece, or they can drape a cloth over the student and let their brilliance go unnoticed.

C.A.L.



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Dear Students, Faculty, Staff, and Alumni:

The Search Committee for the Chancellor of Winston-Salem State University has been organized and we have begun our work. Winston-Salem State University is at a milestone in its development and our work will be extremely important as we prepare to recommend to President Friday two or three candidates for this position.

The Committee recognizes that you, the university family, will be most affected by this decision. Hence, we are appealing to each of you to share with us your concerns and recommendations. We value your input and we encourage you to express your feelings as we begin to deliberate.

There are some criteria that would be considered standard, i.e., educational background, proven experience as an administrator, commitment to higher education, etc. There are other, more subjective criteria, which might be even more helpful in determining the right person for the job. We invite your candid suggestions and assure you such comments will be shared only with the Committee in strictest confidence.

We would especially appreciate receiving the names of potential candidates you might suggest for the leadership position.

Please submit your written comments to my attention at Winston-Salem State University, Post Office Box 13005, Winston-Salem, NC 27110. If you would prefer to discuss your views with me by telephone, please advise me of a number where you can be contacted.

This is one of the most significant assignments the Board of Trustees will undertake and I sincerely appreciate your assistance. I pledge to you we will work hard to ensure that the next Chancellor is one we can work with cooperatively as we move ahead into the next century.

Sincerely yours,
John W. Davis, Chairman