

# Editorials

## SGA President Bids Advice

Dear Students,

As we bring this year to a close, I feel that we can mark it as a successful one. We had an enjoyable Homecoming, an event filled with Black History Month and we also had a festive, educational experience during the Inauguration of our Chancellor, Dr. Cleon F. Thompson, Jr. I hope the success of the university continues.

We have also had a few trying times, which included violations of the Co-Ed Visitation and Alcohol Beverage policies. This is where we, as the students of the university, must accept responsibility for their actions. We must also make sure that we know what is going on around us administratively. Get the facts straight then pursue the answers to any questions that we have. You would be surprised to know the people on campus who are for the rights of the students.

This is a great university and we are fortunate to be associated with it. Take pride in YOURSELF and this community, and then the community-at-large can only feel that pride radiates throughout.

It has been an educational and rewarding experience being your Student Government Association President this year. I have gained many new friends and acquaintances. I will always cherish the memories.

I can leave this institution with pride and say "I am a graduate of Winston-Salem State University."

I wish you the best that life has to offer!  
May God Bless You.

Hanna "Joy" Bridges  
Student Government Association  
President 1985-86

## Trustees Vote For Fee Increase To Support Athletes

by Carolyn Hooper

The day after the WSSU Board of Trustees met on March 6, 1986, an article entitled "WSSU Trustees Vote to Increase Athletic Fees" appeared in the Winston-Salem Journal.

Many WSSU students who read the story were very upset upon reading that, beginning this fall, each student at WSSU will be paying an additional \$20 each semester to provide "scholarship" money for athletes who can not, will not, or forget to, apply for financial aid (as every other student is required to do if he/she hopes to receive any).

Several students were discussing the article at the beginning of class when our instructor told us that the Journal story was not factual. I decided to seek the truth for the News Argus, so I attempted to contact the trustees and get the facts from them. Surprise! The ones I was able to reach refused to discuss the meeting or tell me what had transpired. Supposedly, the meetings are open to the public and I feel sure that, if students were aware of when the meetings were being held, the student body would have a few attendees. In view of the fact that these are open meetings, it seemed unreasonable to me that I was unable to get any information; therefore, I feel we can only rely on the Journal reporter's version of what happened.

According to the Journal article, scouting coaches promise prospective athletes financial aid to induct them to attend WSSU; when the athletes do not seek this aid in the usual manner, the Athletic Department simply gives the athletes money from school funds. Mr. Willie E. Grissom, Interim Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, reportedly said that \$160,800 was spent last year on football and basketball scholarships. There are 150 to 175 athletes of which only 5 to 10 fail to complete the financial aid forms or miss the deadlines. Does this mean that 7.5 to 17.5 athletes received \$9,189 to \$21,440 each for attending WSSU to play basketball or football?

With this \$20 increase, each student will be paying \$100, instead of the current \$80, for athletic fees, adding another \$42,000 or

so (bringing the total to over \$2,000,000) to the fund to pay athletes to come here to play ball.

The Journal reported that only two trustees voted against the increase.

Trustee Raymond Means was quoted as saying, "I do not see why we should subsidize them when it's their fault," in not applying for aid.

Trustee James Mack reportedly said the university's priority should be education—not football. "Our main purpose here is to educate these kids."

It comes to the basic question: "What is the purpose of this university—football or education?" The answer appears to be clear when that much money is available for athletics and little or no money is available for academic scholarships—although two new scholarships will be awarded to incoming traditional freshmen. It would seem that priorities here are in need of rethinking.

Other factors to be considered are the facts that the majority of students at WSSU are females, and one-third of the students are non-traditional, or adult students. How many of these receive athletic scholarships? None. How many could care less about football or basketball? Also, most of the non-traditional students are taxpayers. We are all aware that football and basketball are big business, and that the alumni tend to give more money to the school if it has a winning team, but that does not appear to be an important consideration here.

The issue seems to me to be: What is meant by "the tradition of excellence"? Is it academic excellence? Or is it athletic excellence? One would think that the concern would be to make a degree from WSSU respected in the marketplace and to improve the image of the university. It is a shame that when so many dedicated, gifted people are giving their all to provide us with a quality education that what we hear about our school is, "Those black boys sure can play ball!"

## Knowledge The Light Of The World

by Carter Cue

The true meaning of fraternities and sororities are hidden behind a veil of allegorical symbols. A symbol is that which stands for, or suggests something by reason of association. This veil causes many people to associate the wisdom of African-American fraternal orders with the ignorant Greeks. We help to perpetuate this ignorance during the pledge period when foolish stunts take precedence to the study of African History. In this situation we have the blind leading the blind. The blind big brother or big sister does not possess the light or lamp of knowledge to lead the pledge to enlightenment; therefore they both wander aimlessly in the dark cave of ignorance.

Of course many readers are saying "I'm not no African, so what are you talking about." According to psychologist Na'im Akbar you know you are a Greek because you're an aka, Kappa, Delta, Alpha, Zeta Sigma or an Omega. and you know it until the day you die. Even though many fraternity and sorority people know less about Greece than Africa they still profess to be Greeks. We always prefer to be other than ourselves.

The symbols and signs of many fraternities and sororities are of African origin. A brief example of this, is as follows:

--The Delta is the marshy land located at the mouth of the Nile in Africa.

--Green is the African color of fertility and new life.

--The fertile Crescent located in Africa is the seat of civilization.

--The Scroll-er made from the papyrus is the first paper made by African along the Nile.

--The pyramid was a temple of knowledge, as well as a royal burial chamber.

--The Sphinx is located in Africa. The land was once called Al-ke-bulan by the inhabitants.

--The president of some organizations is called Basileus-the Ethiopian word for leader.

--The lamp or torch symbolized knowledge to the priest of the Mystery System.

--The African color of royalty was purple.

The symbols of African-American organizations can not be attributed to the Greeks because they had not seen the lamp of knowledge when African genius was giving the world medicine, religion, mathematics, philosophy, agriculture and other disciplines. These disciplines were learned in the first fraternities--the Mystery System of Africa. This is explained in George G.M. James' book *The Stolen Legacy*.

The first Greek fraternities were comprised of men who used brawn over brain. They wasted their time running around naked, and competing in the olympics. The women were not allowed in athletic clubs, so they formed sisterhoods on the island of Lesbos, which is in the Aegean Sea. The inhabitants were called lesbians. Maybe this information will cause fraternities and sororities to celebrate Pan-African week instead of Greek week.

At the end of the pledge period, new initiates participate in a slow walk around campus called a Death March. What is dying? Is the body dying? The mind of the individual can't be dying; that's already dead. Some people in the organization say this march symbolizes Jesus on his way to calvary; while others believe it means the end of pledging. Anyone that believes these ridiculous stories is dead also. According to Albert Churchward's book, *Signs and Symbols of Primordial Man*, the neophyte of the African Mysteries was led through a dark maze of obstacles which he had to overcome. These obstacles were not PHYSICAL abuse, nor MENTAL abuse. The reaching of a lighted exit symbolized the leaving behind of ignorance, and coming into wisdom or Light.

## Study in Spain for A Semester

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at North Carolina State University is sponsoring a semester of study in Spain for next fall.

Anyone who has completed four semesters of college Spanish or the equivalent may participate in the program, being offered for the second time at the University of Santander on the northern coast of Spain. Students may enroll for up to 15 credit hours in subjects that include grammar, literature, history, art and geography.

The program is co-sponsored by NCSU, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and the University of Santander. In addition to course work, there will be several field trips and a three-day excursion to Madrid. Participants will stay in a residence hall at the university.

Applications will be reviewed on the first of May and June. For more information contact the NCSU Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at (919) 737-2475 or the Study Abroad Office at (919) 737-2087.

