

# Opinion

## HOMECOMING

### Financial support ensures continuation of black institutions of higher learning

By Mia Wilson  
NEWS ARGUS EDITOR

H-O-M-E-C-O-M-I-N-G! It's homecoming ya'll! Homecoming is the time when our schoolwork fades in the back of our minds and fun and activities takes its place. Parties every night, football game extra special, acting crazy and just letting yourself "get loose."

However, the main object of homecoming is to welcome our alumni.

Before I go on, let's imagine for a minute that after you receive your degree and "depart to serve," you also forget or don't want to give back to the school financially. If every alumnus had that attitude, homecoming could also be a past memory -- along with your professors, classes and old schoolmates.

As blacks, we need to support our black institution or our 100-year celebration could be a dream not celebrat-



ed. We need to retire that age-old saying, "I gave while I was here. . . my tuition for four years!" Well, Winston-

Salem State University is more than a four-year venture. It's an institution that provides education for blacks so

that we are able to survive in an highly competitive and prejudiced world.

As a result of bettering ourselves, we should help our younger brother and sisters along by supporting our school and keeping WSSU alive so they also will receive a quality education. As a race, we need to help each other up instead of pulling each other down.

It is a shame that we can give to Hanes Mall, fast-food businesses, foreign cars, booze and K-mart, but when it comes down to the university, our pockets are empty. We are broke this month or we are plain not interested. In other words we get that I-got-mine-now-you-get-yours-the-best-way-you-can-fever. We need to put an aspirin on that attitude. Get involved and save our black colleges, or next time we chant H-O-M-E-C-O-M-I-N-G, it will be from the stands of Wake Forest or UNC-Chapel Hill.

## Report says colleges unprepared for rape epidemic

College presidents have been urged to take immediate action to reduce the incidence of sexual assaults on campus and to protect the rights of student victims. A report, published by the Rape Treatment Center of Santa Monica, Calif., cites many cases of campus rape in which victims have been revictimized by their colleges and recommends major new policies and programs to remedy this problem.

Gail Abarbanel, the director of the Rape Treatment Center director and report co-author, said, "We're facing an epidemic. A recent national survey found that one in every six college women had been a victim of rape or attempted rape during the preceding year. "In our experience treating victims from dozens of college campuses around the country, we have seen that most colleges are unprepared to deal with this crisis."

The report, entitled "Sexual Assault on Campus: What Colleges Can Do," cites common complaints of campus rape victims, including having to live in the same

dormitory as the assailant following the rape; unsafe university housing vulnerable to break-ins by strangers; the absence of any rights or protections for the victim if she reports the assault and pursues a campus investigation; and failure by colleges to take disciplinary action against offenders.

One case described in the report occurred at a large, private college in the South, where an assailant kicked in a flimsy locked door leading to a coed's room and sexually assaulted her as she was taking a shower. It was later determined that the lighting, doors, and locks in the college's housing units were inadequate and made break-ins easy.

Aileen Adams, Rape Treatment Center legal counsel and report co-author, cautions college administrators, "Colleges that do not provide a safe environment for students run a high risk of expensive lawsuits."

The report calls upon colleges to:

- Adopt and send to every student an official policy that condemns rape and sexual assaults.
- Revise student conduct codes to specifically prohibit sexual assaults and provide certain rights for victims.
- Establish procedures to modify living arrangements when the victim and the accused live in the same housing.
- Institute mandatory, campuswide educational programs on sexual assault for students, faculty, and staff.
- Provide support services for victims, including immediate medical treatment and counseling, and develop procedures for how college personnel should respond to victim reports.

Ms. Abarbanel added, "The consequences of not implementing widespread changes are potentially enormous. Without new policies and programs, victims will not come forward to receive the help they need to recover from their trauma; most assailants will not be brought to justice; and campus rapes will continue to escalate."



Mia Wilson

### Mia Wilson named news editor of News Argus staff for this year

By Joanie Tuttle  
STAFF REPORTER

Mia R. Wilson, 21, was appointed editor-in-chief of The News Argus staff this year.

Ms. Wilson is a native of Fayetteville and a senior at WSSU.

She has been on the newspaper staff for three years starting as a reporter then managing editor and now editor.

"I feel very comfortable with my new editor position. I have a wonderful and very supportive staff, and this year the Winston-Salem Chronicle is printing the paper so there will

be some little changes on the newspaper that I hope everyone will be pleased about."

Ms. Wilson is pleased with the paper's new format. The paper will be published once a month and more city-wide events will be in the paper.

Besides working on the newspaper, Ms. Wilson is also involved in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., is secretary of Los Carneros Hispanicos (The Spanish Club), and is a member of Day Student Association, University Ushers, Judiciary Council, and Gotham City Club.

In the future, she wants to write for the feature section on a newspaper or publish her own magazine for black audiences.

#### The News Argus Staff:

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If you have any questions or letters to the editor, write The News Argus staff, Room 313, Hall-Patterson Communications Building, WSSU campus.