

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

Jones Enjoys Challenges College Offers

BY GLORIA MARTIN
Staff Writer

"My life's goal was to go to a four-year college. So after I sent my nine children to college. I started saving money for myself," said Hester Jones, a third-year student who decided to experience dormitory living in Dillard Hall.

Before agreeing to do the interview, Jones said I could ask her anything except her age. Even though there is an age difference between Jones and the other students in the dormitory, she doesn't want to be looked upon as an old lady or a senior citizen. "I've paid my tuition just like the next student," said Jones, and she wants to be treated equally.

Since Jones is slightly older than the traditional boarding, she gave a slight chuckle when asked how her instructors and other students respond to her in the classroom. "The other students look at me as a student, not as an old lady. But I did have an instructor who considered me to be a senior citizen, but I told him that I'm not a senior citizen, I am a student."

Around this time last year, Jones was a student in at Howard University. The college experience was gratifying. In fact

it was so enjoyable, she planned to pursue a graduate degree in Black History after completing her undergraduate degree. But in order to maintain her home and other property in Charlotte, she had to leave Howard University. So now she is a RAM here at Winston-Salem State University studying Black History.

"I'm going to study the rest of my life - I love it! I do plan to go to graduate school because they'll never run out of things for me to learn," she said. Her future plans include writing a book and receiving a graduate degree. Jones says that no one can stop her from her future plans and writing her book.

Before attending Howard University, Jones had been a nurse for 21 years and was very active in her community in a program called Women Reach. Women Reach, is an organization that helps women with mental and physical problems. Jones was one of the organizers of the organization. Jones still does a lot of volunteer work, but it is limited to the weekends.

Most college students receive some type of financial aid to help them with their college tuition and expenses. Jones doesn't receive any aid.

"I'm paying my own way. No scholarships, and no financial aid. They have been offered, but I refuse to take any handouts."

Jones stressed the importance of saving money. She feels that students should save money to help with all or at least some of their college expenses. According to Jones, we as a group of people have already "been labeled as 'beggars' by White people. Even if I flunk out, I'm coming back to motivate and educate my people."

Jones feels that she has accomplished a lot during her life. She attributes all that she has done and all that she will do, to God. "Without the help of an unseen God, I could not have achieved all the great things that have occurred in my life."

She says with God's help she raised nine children for 21 years as a single parent, has never been a welfare recipient, received her high-school equivalency diploma around the time when her seventh child was graduating from high-school, and has finished a year and a half of college without financial aid.

When asked if there was one thing that she could tell other students who



Hester Jones

were struggling or thinking about dropping out of college. She said, "save your money if you're working and go to a technical school to keep your brain motivated. Don't give up, there's ways to continue your education."

Jones says she is very happy that her life's goal is coming to pass. She attributes some of her happiness to the students she has met here at WSSU. "Being on this campus with these beautiful, vivacious, and intelligent young people, is a fulfillment of my life. In fact, it's the best time in my life."

Parking, Parking

cars in the first available space.

Many faculty and staff members have complained to the WSSU Security Department about not being able to park in designated faculty lots or spaces near the buildings where they work. The most common response received is, "there are plenty of spots down by the Gaines Center."

Mrs. Patricia Martin, the Department of Life Sciences' secretary said, "I paid \$50 for a parking sticker and I have nowhere to park. I have to park where ever there is an opening."

"I really don't think there is a parking problem," said Mrs. Elvita Hunt, WSSU's telecommunications operator. "After I visited East Carolina University and heard that they paid more than \$100 for a parking decal per semester (and this still does not guarantee them a space) I stopped complaining."

Mrs. Derrinita Manuel, a member of the Department of English and Foreign Languages faculty and Dr. Abhijit Sen, a member of the Mass Communications faculty, both say they now just park their cars in the lot behind R. J. Reynolds.

The worst and most congested areas to park during the day are near Hall-Patterson, R. J. Reynolds and the C.E.



Car drivers park their car in any available space

Gaines Center. Drivers park their cars in front of entrances or in driveways which could result in causing accidents.

A year ago, Campus Security initiated a Color Coded (parking zones) System to help prevent people from parking in the wrong locations. Most people who park

on campus feel this system probably works 35 per cent of the time.

James Lewis, WSSU's director of Security, feels that the parking problem will ease up after the new residence hall opens in January 1994. "Students who live in the new residence hall will not be

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allowed to travel across to the main campus because they will have new parking stickers," explained Lewis. "Parking will be enforced next semester. If you don't have a decal you will be towed."

According to Lewis, construction will be going on near Brown Hall, which will close that lot to cars; but with the opening of the new dorm 100 spaces should become available.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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FROM
THE NEWS ARGUS
STAFF

