

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

ECC Nurtures Winston-Salem Children

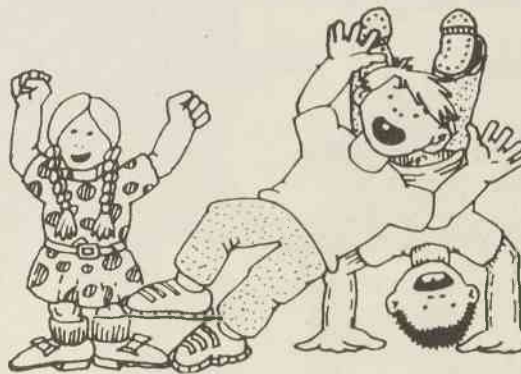
BY MILDRED GUMBS
Staff Writer

An idea that started as a children's center in an off-campus church, by Experiment In Self-Reliance, has helped hundreds of children, their parents, and Winston Salem State University.

The Early Childhood Center was not only established by ESR, a nonprofit community agency who deals with deprived citizens of Forsyth County, but also controlled by them until 1974 when it was transferred to WSSU Education Department. The purpose of the center is to provide the university's students with hands on clinical experience such as observing the children's activities, growth and also teaching them various subjects like Spanish, Art, etc. Students also have

an opportunity to do their work-study there.

Rhona Isaiah, an instructor at the center feels that the center is still a laboratory school, but "a cut above all the rest". "We pride ourselves on doing a little bit of everything. We are trying to follow the trends in education, which is to use what they call a developmentally appropriate curriculum," she said. Isaiah has been a



teacher at the center for 20 years.

Deloris Jerman-Garrison, interim director of the center, says that the center provides activities which are age and developmentally appropriate for the students who attend the center. The activities range from language arts, science, social studies, math, foreign language, computer training and physical education.

The center provides educational services for children of members of the

faculty, staff, students, and the WSSU community. It is opened to parents who pay for their children, as well as parents who are unable to pay. The parents who are unable to pay receive help from AFDC and JOBS programs financed through the state and other programs funded by Social Services. Tuition is \$50 per week per child.

"The center provides children with the best educational experience there is," said Nancy Allen, secretary in the Upward Bound Office. "My daughter attended the Early Childhood Center and is now in the top five in her class in public school. It teaches the children how to read, and how to socialize. It has a very good program."

A Taste of the Real World

BY JANICE WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

During Spring Break 1994, two Mass Communications majors participated in the NABJ Student Broadcast Short Course held on the campus of N. C. A & T.

NABJ (The National Association of Black Journalists) is a 19 year-old organization whose membership is comprised of 2300 professional in the broadcast industry. The purpose of this three-day seminar was to acquaint African American college students with behind-the-scenes jobs in the broadcast industry; and to encourage more African American journalism students to pursue television management as a career.

Tonya Woods and Janice Williams, senior WSSU Mass Communications majors, joined other Mass Communications majors from NC A&T,

Bennett, and the University of Maryland for three invigorating days of "hands-on experience needed to work in the real world." They also had access to African Americans who currently work as news directors, producers, writers, assignment editors and directors at some of the top television stations in the United States.

During the month of March, NABJ sponsored three seminars at three historically black universities across the country: Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida; Xavier University in New Orleans, Louisiana; and NCA&T, in Greensboro. The seminars were opened to African American juniors and seniors enrolled in a four-year accredited college or university majoring in Mass Communications or Broadcast Journalism with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better.

Black Summit Addresses Problems in the City

BY MARGARET ROSS
Staff Writer

An African - American Summit was held on March 18 -19 at the Anderson Center to address the problems plaguing African Americans in Winston-Salem. The purpose of the summit was to bring leaders and concerned citizens together to find positive solutions to these problems.

Summit participants attended a series of workshops in the areas of: economic development, education, criminal justice, housing, and youth. In each workshop participants came up with objectives and goals aimed at ending problems in that area.

The Youth workshop presentation was given by 17-year old Kenric L. Sexton. The youth's plan of recommendations included: holding monthly forums in which teenagers can discuss problems, making children go to church, more black independent private schools, and going back to old fashioned disciplined. But the greatest message was sent when more than 30 youth came on stage and held hands as a sign of unity.

Officials in the criminal justice group stated that their needs to be more rehabilitation programs. "Fragmented and outdated programs and services need to be eliminated," said Michael Grace, a local attorney. Officials stated that some programs need to be combined so that their resources can be used more effectively. Participants at the summit suggested that a group should be formed that would monitor and intervene in the criminal justice system to deal with the needs of black defendants. The group would also meet with judges, prosecutors

and the police chief on a regular basis. The group also proposed establishing a boot camp for first time youth offenders where there could also get their GED or learn a trade and encouraging businesses to hire inmates after they are released from prison.

The housing participants recommendations included: encouraging blacks to buy their own houses and helping people such as the elderly repair their houses. They suggested starting a volunteer group that would work with the housing authority to help people find out about existing housing programs and move to more adequate housing.

The education participants stated that people need to go to school board meetings and monitor schools more closely. Officials also stated that youth should be involved because you must involve a group before you can plan for them.

The summit was attended by many community leaders such as: Virginia Newell, Reverend John Mendez, Joycelyn Johnson, Mazie Woodruff and Larry Womble. The leaders commended the participation of the youth at the summit. Many of the youth said that this was the first time they had to express their view in front of community leaders and the summit has motivated them to take action to change things and prepare them for the future. Participants were encouraged to take what they have learned at the summit and work together to improve economic development, housing, education and to enhance the future and empowerment of African-American youth.

Hagg

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The inmates would fight each other and I have also witness murders. This is because they all feel as though they are going to die anyway so there's no need to value life anymore.

After I appealed my life sentence and won, I felt that I had to prove something to myself. The first two books I ever received and valued were the biography of Malcolm X and the dictionary. The dictionary was there for me to look up words that I could not understand. It took me approximately six months to complete it. Upon doing this, I began to realize who I was. I knew there was something more to me than just being in jail. This is when I became interested in trying to learn the things that I really missed out on as a teenager. One

particular thing was education. This is what brought me to WSSU.

Haag, 34, still hungers for more education. "I value education while some students take it for granted," he said.

Haag plans to attend graduate school in the fall. "I'm glad I was able to begin again. I will never look down on myself. I have remorse for what I have done, but if I wasn't in prison, I think I would be dead now."

Although he is older than most college students Hagg says, "I realize that the mentality level of each individual develops differently. Even though I'm older, you're never too old to learn."