

NEWS



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Farrakhan Returns Home

Fee Increase Proposed for WSSU Students

SPECIAL REPORT

Students at Winston-Salem State University may have to pay more in student fees next academic year.

On December 6, the WSSU Board of Trustees voted unanimously to ask the University of North Carolina board of governors for permission to raise fees for full-time students by \$205. That would bring the amount of fees that each student pays to \$959.

Athletic fees and activity fees would increase by \$50, but the biggest increase would come in fees for computer and technology services. Those fees would increase by \$105 to \$150.

According to Chancellor Alvin J. Schexnider, the extra money from the fees would help the university update the equipment in the computer labs.

BY AMY PHIPPS, STEPHANY COUSINS, DOUGLAS CLARK AND QUEN ROBINSON
Staff Writers

The students of Winston-Salem State University were granted their wish to have the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam speak on campus.

On November 25, he addressed over 1,800 people in K.R. Williams Auditorium and hundreds more via closed circuit television in Hall-Patterson and Dillard Auditoriums. The speech was also broadcast on WSNC 90.5 FM, the campus radio station.

Farrakhan delivered a message emphasizing the cultivation of knowledge, character, personal direction and empowerment to WSSU students, faculty/staff and community residents.

Many people arrived two hours before the speech to obtain a seat close to the front.

Several times during the two hour speech, the audience rose to their feet and cheered what the Minister said.

Farrakhan condemned those individuals who try to keep part or all of their knowledge from those who do not have it.

"Education is not for the privileged. Education is a human right. To deny any human being the right to the best education is to deny that human being the right to human cultivation," he said.

"Education was given to the slave to make the slave a better tool for the master," he said. "If a man won't treat you right, what makes you think he'll teach you right?"

Character was another key component of Farrakhan's message. "Knowledge without character is a devil in human form," he said. Farrakhan also noted that although

America is considered a superpower of finance and military, that "America is morally and spiritually bankrupt." Furthermore, "The beauty of human kindness must radiate from within us to make 'America the Beautiful,' instead of 'America the Ugly,' and the degenerate."

"Nothing created by God is without aim and purpose," he said. He urged students to address their own personal needs before tackling the greater problems of the community, the nation and the world. He said, "(Your) energy should be focused on the aim and purpose of your personal life...You must love yourself to have a starting place."

Farrakhan also addressed ways to become empowered. "The power of the human being is in the mind," he said. "Knowledge is a key to human

cultivation." He used Jesus' ministry to explain how "the power of the developed mind can control those living when the body is dead."

Later during his speech, he told students that, "White supremacy and black inferiority must die in order for the spirit of God to live."

He added that it is the mindset of the individual that counts; not the color. "I hate the evil mindset." He supported this statement with the scripture, "For as a man thinketh in his heart; so is he."

After the event, students said that they paid close attention to Farrakhan's message; but were cautious not to become too overwhelmed about what he said and tried to read between the lines of Farrakhan's message.

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Angelou, Davis Appear In Benefit

BY LOUQUENDER ROBINSON
Staff Writer

"A Healing Time, A Healing Place," an evening of poetry and song featuring Maya Angelou, Ossie Davis and the Mt. Zion Baptist Church Inspirational Choir was held Nov. 22 at the Benton Convention Center in Winston-Salem.

Angelou and Davis, both internationally known authors and actors, agreed to support the program for the purpose of bringing attention to the church burnings that have recently occurred across the South. Sixty African-American and multi-racial churches, most in the Southeast were burned from January 1995 through June 1996. A portion of the proceeds from the general

admission fee will be given to a fund dedicated to re-building burned churches.

At a press conference held the morning of the program, Angelou and Davis answered questions about their involvement in the project.

Angelou, a resident of Winston-Salem, has been a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church for several years. She became involved with the program when choir mistress, Sharon Buford approached her with the idea of having an evening of poetry and song to raise money for the burned churches.

In an effort to enhance the program, Angelou made a call to her friends, actors Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis. Dee, who was preparing for a one woman show,

was unable to participate. "She sent her love and all that and did a little bit better than that, she sent her husband," says Angelou.

Davis has been concerned for a long time about the burning of churches. He and Gerald McRaney, his co-star on the television series, **Promised Land**, have taped a commercial asking people to stop burning churches. Both men were raised in the South.

The importance of the church in African-American's lives is the main reason for Davis' participation. "The church has defined us as a people, organized us as a people and given us a

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Did You Know....

Born in 1821, Harriet Ross Tubman, became the greatest conductor of the Underground Railroad, a network of way stations that helped Blacks escape from the South to free states and Canada?