THE NEWS ARGUS

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A Place To Learn

When people go to college, they go to learn, mature, and grow.

College helps people prioritize important things and leave childish issues alone. College students focus on issues that need to be fixed. Or if it's wrong they band together to make it right. A good example is what college students did during the 60s. They banned together for equal rights.

Today, college students still band together but for the wrong reasons. "Yes, I'm calling the so called Rams of Winston-Salem State University out."

On October 23, WSSU students converged on the Thompson Student Services Center and Blair Hall to get answers to questions about Homecoming 1997. Two things were accomplished this meeting: John P. Kee appeared at the Gospel Fest and the women were able to go to the Million Woman March in Philadelphia.

Many Rams came out to support the Homecoming issues. I just knew Homecoming Week would be "off the hook."

I was wrong.

Homecoming Week was **DEAD.** Students made all that fuss but they didn't support any of the events, The Gospel Fest should have been packed like when Farrakhan came last fall.

If you didn't go to anything else during Homecoming Week, you should have attended Red and White Day. That's tradition. Guess what? It was **DEADER** than three day old road kill.

What is wrong with WSSU students? There's no love, no support, and no spirit. WSSU may not be the best; but we can make it the best by showing more support and spirit. It's not all about A&T. It's about WSSU! It's what you make it to bee. If you feel so bad about "Ole SU, pack your bags and gets' to steppin'."

Since you want to band together, why don't you band together about the food Shaw Food Services serves us. People are constantly complaining; but you never do anything. You know the food taste like human feces smell. Shaw Foods gives me "the Shhh."

Another thing, students always complain about coed visitation. Most of you feel since you are an adult the administration should treat you like adults. First of all, the majority of you still act like you're in the 9th and 10th grade; hot in the pants. College is not designed for sex orgies. When the majority of you begin exhibiting yourselves as responsible, mature adults maybe then the administration will treat you like adults.

If WSSU's SGA can call an emergency meeting about Homecoming activities, why can't they call an emergency meeting about important student life problems? WE voted them into office. When are we going to present the REAL problems to the SGA?

Can I get some real RAMS to stand up?

Luciana Jackson

Merry Christmas Rams!!

ISSUES & ANSWERS
ARGUS MAILBAG

What I Brought Back From The March

October 24 at about 10 p.m., I boarded bus 327; the destination was the Million Woman March. I was boarding one of two buses heading to Philadelphia with 50 other woman that I assumed were "down for the cause," If you have no idea or are not sure what the cause is that I am referring, then you are at the same point that I was before the march.

I first heard about the preparation for the Million Woman March about a year ago. My first thoughts were, "it sounds more like a cute idea than a good idea." It was clearly going to be a mock-up of the Million Man March only the Million Man March had a cause and the cause was made clear by the publicist. For a year I heard tidbits about the Million Woman March and each time I would hear that the march was going to be held for an entirely different reason than the last. "It sounds cute but, do they really think that a million women will turn out with no advertisement and without a clear cause," was another thought. As time went on I began to realize that numbers would not be an issue with this march, the word was out.

If you too are living the African-American experience, than I am sure that you been exposed to a test that determines how righteous you are. Some people might recognize it better in these words; Are you selling-out?, Are you being an uncle Tom?, etc. Whether you are the one giving the test or taking it, it is a part of life for Africans in our nation.

I admit that I am guilty of having given the test on occasions and have declared individuals less black than I for any number of reasons. I consider myself to be A righteous sister even though I lack dreadlocks, Islam, Kente cloth, or anything else that is typically associated with being more "conscious" than the next person. However, it was as I was riding the bus that I began to test myself.

"Does it make me less proud to be black than the — other women on this trip, because I do not know why I'm headed to Philly or that I don't know what I am supposed to bring back?" I did not have to make the trip to Philadelphia to know that I was Just as proud to be Black as everyone else on the trip. The fact that I did not know the cause did not change that.

No, I did not know the cause but I did have some expectations of what the march would bring and what I might discover. Needless to say, I was hoping to find sisterhood.

When the question was posed on our journey "what do you expect to gain from the march?," I thought I might hear an answer to my question. What I heard coming from all directions was "sisterhood!" Okay, what about sisterhood? I always felt that it was unwritten law; If you have passed the test of righteousness then you are in fact a "sister." Why would we need to go all the way to Philly to find something that we already had? It became apparent that the cause would not be found on the bus.

Saturday October 25, I received my first major hint about the cause when I felt the burst of excitement as I got off the bus. We were no where near the march and already at am. you could feel the festivity of the the day rising with the sun. It was as I marched in the parade on Benjamin Franklin Parkway, when it dawn on me, that the day was not going to be dedicated to a cause. The men had a cause in 1995 during the Million Man March. The Million Woman March, though a spin off of the prior one, was not about causes or crisis but was a celebration.

Black woman have had it together for years. The calling was to make us aware of how far we have come, to alert us to issues that are trying to conquer us like disease, and to show (in numbers) how strong we are.

I am not ashamed to say that I did not realize how strong the African American Woman is. Before the march, it was impossible for me to imagine a million people all in one place at the same time. When I made it to the front of the crowd that had gathered at the march, I turned around and beheld not one but two million women who had marched in behind me. It was two-million women with the same heritage. It was more than I could have imagined. There is no word to describe the amount of awe I felt as I walked from one end of the mass to the other.

I was now a witness; there was no Black person less Black than the other. It did not matter whether all two million women came for the same reason or whether we all came for two million individual reasons, we were all bonded in sisterhood through heritage.

The gift that bring to the sisters who were not there is this: Though we share a sisterhood, we have thrived off of our differences, it is important to remain true to yourself. Two million women showed-up, but we all returned home. The true strength of the African-American woman is not in the mass, it is within each individual. Consider the bond of sisterhood a body. In the body, the most vital organs are in the head and at its center. Together sisters form a body. As individuals we are the appendages that help the body as a whole. Realize that like an appendage to the body the sisterhood does not want to loose you.

Though it is easy to place blame or find fault in others, you double creditability when you are able to find and admit your own inconsistencies and improve on them. The revolution that sisters need is not a physical one, it is mental. The self-improvement of those that share a bond with the individual. While we are responsible for our own actions, all sisters are accountable for them.

Lastly there does not need to be major cause to show demonstration, you can be an example everyday. The theme for the Million Woman March was "Love and Respect." Love and respect yourself and it becomes natural to love and respect your sisters.

I found the resolution to my search for why the march was called on no less than the back of a tee-shirt. "The Mission of the Million Woman March is to bring together a spiritual reunion of women of African descent to uplift, empower, organize, repent, redeem, and resurrect, in the spirit of sisterhood." I leave you with love and respect.

Reagan Bolden