

NEWS FEATURES

Homecoming '97: Thanks For The Memories Alumna Returns To Serve

BY REAGAN BOLDEN
Staff Writer

A former SGA president, who was president of her freshman and sophomore classes and president of Atkins Hall was the speaker for the first Alumni Challenge sponsored by the Student Government Association during Homecoming Week. The program's theme was "Striving for Excellence and Nothing Else."

According to Karen Taylor, SGA president, the mission of the challenge is to communicate the history of our university and the progress of its alumni. This program was the "brain child" of Taylor's. The Alumni Challenge is time for alumni to give back to their university and make a difference by sharing their WSSU experiences to better someone else's outlook.

Joelle Davis, a 1995 WSSU graduate, is currently employed at Winthrop College in Rock Hill, SC. In her speech she told the audience, "We know that better is good; but better is better. When I tell folks that I went to Ohio State University, I also say — but did you

know that I am also a graduate of Winston-Salem State University?"

In talking to the audience, she also recognized former professors who helped her become who she is today. Dr. Shirley Manigault, chairman of the Department of English and Foreign Languages; Dr. Francine Madrey, former vice chancellor for Student Affairs; and Dr. Pauline Fulton, a member of the Department of English and Foreign Languages faculty, are some of the people she recognized.

She personalized her life experiences by reading pages from her journal which she started as a high school senior and kept until she graduated from WSSU which she says was "a very happy but sad day at Lawrence Joel Coliseum."

The first entry, one from 1991 before she started college, "around October or November 1991: Can you believe it, I made a choice today, Winston-Salem State University, the campus was warm and friendly especially when I walked into the Gaines Center and all the majors were set-up. People were down there telling

me I could be any of the majors, I could do anything. And can you believe the the chancellor, the chancellor and other administrators were there to greet myself and my family."

Davis' speech was well received by the Ram audience. WSSU's Chancellor Dr. Alvin J. Schexnider said, "I was quite impressed with Ms. Davis. I think we should do this again. We have a lot of alumni that have things to offer."

David Dawson said, "Joelle Davis has more to offer than just a sense of pride and advise, she gives you her energy which she has a lot of. I think she is terrific. She helped me write my speech for the National Black Student Association which I am now the secretary of."

Karen Taylor also explained why she felt the need to begin the Alumni Challenge. "As I have matriculated through this university I have seen a need for more alumni participation. I could not see having a Homecoming without a day for alumni and students to share with each other. Our alumni is one of our most precious assets and we must not lose them."

Step Show Participants Rock The House

BY ANDREW MEANS
Staff Writer

Great anticipation filled the room as Winston-Salem State University students, alumni, and other college students waited for the stepshow sponsored by the WSSU Pan-Hellenic Council to begin.

The stepshow, which was a sellout, also featured step teams from Glenn High School, sponsored by Luther Johnson, a WSSU alumnus; and the sisters of the Pi Omicron Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. from Wake Forest University.

Joelle Davis, a WSSU alumna and former SGA President (1993-1995), and MC Boogie D, a local radio personality from 102 JAMZ, served as host and hostess for the emotionally filled event.

From Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. to Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., the teams were judged on precision, difficulty of steps, appearance and uniformity, and overall showmanship for a total of 100 points. Each team had a maximum time limit of 15 minutes to impress the judges or face possible disqualification.

Ticket sales were outstanding for the event, which was once sponsored by the Student Government Association.

Albert Roseboro, the Pan-Hellenic Council advisor, said he was "pleased with the numbers, but that he was sorry that everyone could not get in and enjoy the show."

After providing the crowd with great performances from all the teams, a winner was chosen. For the second consecutive year, the ladies of the Omega Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and the Ice Cold brothers of the Beta Iota Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., took first place in the Fraternity and Sorority divisions.

The ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha and the men of Kappa Alpha Psi took second place in their respective divisions.

Wu Tang Comes To Winston-Salem

BY DANIELLE PROPHETE
Editor

What appeared to be one of the liveliest Winston-Salem State University's Homecoming shows in WSSU history turned out to be one of the rowdiest shows in WSSU's history.

Nothing but trouble seemed to surround the Homecoming show, which featured famed comedian T.P. Hearn, singing sensation 112, and rap phenomenon Wu-Tang.

Students from WSSU and locals piled into the LJVM Coliseum by the hundreds, undoubtedly to see the Wu-Tang Clan. Comedian T.P. Hearn, a familiar face in the comedy circuit, was disrespectfully booed 15 minutes into his performance. Rap fans chanted, "Wu-Tang, Wu-Tang, Wu-Tang," forcing him to perform about 10 minutes longer before exiting the stage.

Fortunately, Bad Boy Creation, 112 did not receive the same response. Daron, Michael, Q, & Slim, who make up 112, came out to a slew of females charging the stage and screaming for them excessively. They performed their platinum hits, "Only You," and "Cupid,"

along with popular hits by slain rapper, the Notorious B.I.G.

An intermission allowed the group to personally introduce themselves and show their real vocal talents with dedications to famed artists: BabyFace Edmonds, Stevie Wonder, Bryan McKnight and Guy.

"112 really showed out," said Tarsha Wilkinson, sophomore nursing major. "I was so glad to see they could really sing."

After performing for about an hour, 112 exited the stage. Even though they received great responses from the ladies and most of the gentleman, Slim, a member of 112, said, "they could see and hear the very vocal Wu-Tang fans. But they felt really good about the response they received from the crowd."

By this time the crowd was hyped up and ready for the Wu-Tang Clan. Unfortunately Wu-Tang didn't come out for almost two hours, which left the crowd very rowdy and upset. At various times they began to chant, "we want Wu-Tang."

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