

# THE NEWS ARGUS

Winston-Salem State University

E-mail: newzargus@yahoo.com

May 2001

## Congratulations to the Class of 2001

Photo by Melde Rutledge  
Graduating seniors had to buy their caps and gowns at the WSSU bookstore.



## LIVING HISTORY

### Widow of civil rights activist Medgar Evers to speak at graduation

Courtesy of WSSU's Web site

**M**yrle Evers-Williams, the widow of slain civil rights leader Medgar Evers, will deliver the keynote address for Winston-Salem State University's 109th Commencement on Saturday, May 12, at Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum at 9:45 a.m.

As leaders in the civil rights movement in Mississippi in the early 1960s, Evers-Williams and her husband, Medgar, were high profile targets for pro-segregation terrorist acts.

The risks were so high for those involved in voter registration drives and civil rights demonstrations that the couple made a pact between them never to part from each other in anger.

Threats against the Evers family peaked in 1962, due largely to Medgar's successful



EVERS-WILLIAMS

organization of a boycott of white downtown merchants in Jackson, Miss.

The Evers' home was firebombed while he was away at a meeting. Evers-Williams fought the flames with a garden hose, all the while fearing she might be killed by a sniper lurking in the shadows outside her home.

The premonition of assassination they both shared came true the night of June 12, 1963, when Medgar was shot and killed by a sniper in the driveway of his

home. Despite her husband's murder and threats on her own life in the days and weeks that followed the assassination, Evers-Williams continued her husband's crusade for racial equality.

She demonstrated even greater courage and determination after two all-white juries allowed her husband's killer to walk free. She worked the next 30 years to see that justice was done. Her notion of justice was realized in 1994, when Byron De La Beckwith was sentenced to life in prison for Evers' murder.

The Evers' home in Jackson, Miss., was donated to Tougaloo College, and the street on which it stands was declared a national historic site. From the depths of that tragedy, Evers-Williams emerged from being the wife of a

See **EVERS**, page 2

## Class officers, SGA elected for 2001-02 school year

By Christina Simons, Tameka R. Stafford and Latara Patterson

Argus Reporters

For a little more than a week, Winston-Salem State University's campus was filled with an array of creatively designed posters and fliers, complete with pictures and thoughtful quotes, from students who were running for Student Government Association and class officer positions.

After a strenuous week of wearing buttons, passing out fliers and giving away candy, these are the candidates students voted for in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Thompson Center on April 4.

The students and their offices are:

### Student Government Association Cabinet

Carmille Akande, president; Marques Gaffney, vice president of internal affairs; Faith Herring, secretary of judicial affairs; and Shonetta Gregg, secretary of commuter services.

### Senior Class Officers

Calvin Randall III, president; Bridgett Terry, vice president; Brandie Fleming, class representative; and Kenita Upchurch and Christy Nixon, class queens.

### Junior Class Officers

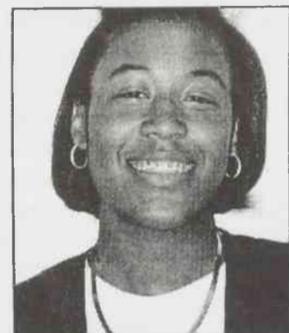
Rolanda Patrick, president; Rosalyn Brown, vice president; Deidre Boyd, treasurer; and Brandie Fleming, class representative

### Sophomore Class Officers

Kia Hood, president; Daryl Williams, vice president; Safari Jeffries, treasurer; Michelle Hager, chaplain; class representatives, Lunday Talley and Regina White; and Daiquari Ross, class queen.



GREGG



HERRING



GAFFNEY