

Campus NEWS

NBA analyst: A career is something you love

By Nicole Ferguson
ARGUS NEWS EDITOR

A very blunt and inspiring NBA analyst and sports columnist, Stephen A. Smith, spoke to the students of Winston Salem State University on April 10.

The 1992 WSSU graduate spoke to students from the heart, rather than from a written speech.

"The odds are against us," said Smith of opportunities for blacks.

"If you don't have the persistence and the tenacity, you won't get what you want."

Smith stressed the importance of loving what you do as a professional.

"A job is something you do to pay the bills," said Smith.

"A career is what you choose to do and pay the bills."

Smith spoke fondly about his days at WSSU under professor of Marilyn Roseboro, and as a player under the infamous Coach C.E. Gaines.

Due to tendinitis and a cracked knee, Smith, a New York native, was unable to continue play-

ing basketball for the university. This was when he realized he had to make some decisions about his future, and found journalism to be his forte.

"It doesn't stop here; it just begins here," said Smith of the college experience. He feels students don't take full advantage of their educational opportunities.

"It's not the university's fault. It's not the administrator's fault, and it's not the professor's fault," said Smith. "It's about you and life. It's about vision."

Smith is an NBA columnist and Philadelphia 76ers beat writer at the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. He has recently joined CNN/SI as an NBA analyst.

Patrick named Miss WSSU

By Claesa Simmons
ARGUS REPORTER

After the April 9 elections, Rolanda "Ro" Patrick posted a note to the student body in which she thanked them for voting her Miss Winston-Salem State University for 2002-2003.

The showcase, held in K.R. Williams Auditorium, gave each contestant a chance to gain student votes before the elections.

With a theme of "A Woman's World," the showcase featured Patrick, a molecular biology major and chemistry minor, Tracie Alston, a mass communications major and drama minor, and Christy Nixon, an accounting and MIS major and the reigning junior class queen.

The showcase opened with a performance by A.R.T, also known as the Association of Rhythmic Talent, featuring each contestant in creative-wear outfits.

Patrick wore an outfit that was

both traditionally African and stylish to introduce herself as the first contestant.

She said the divisions and pleats in her outfit represented "the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit," and "the struggles that each woman encounters daily."

Alston wore an outfit with striking colors and an elaborate denim jacket with a spray-painted design to show her creativity.

Nixon chose simplicity in color and style in boot-cut pants and a long jacket.

The question and answer portion of the showcase allowed each contestant to share her views about specific issues plaguing the university, as well as society as a whole.

Patrick was able to expound on ways to increase the level of pride and student involvement while Alston was asked to speak about community involvement.

In contrast, Nixon addressed the self-esteem as a major prob-

lem facing African-American youth.

"[Better] self-esteem will produce better teenagers and proud adults," she said.

As the showcase proceeded, the contestants were able to communicate with the audience in their own unique way by using their talents.

Dressed as Dorothy from "The Wiz," Patrick sang her own rendition of Regina Bell's "When I Think of Home."

Patrick defined a queen as a "state of mind." She also said Miss WSSU should be a pure representation of the school and have sincerity.

With a long list of accomplishments in academics and extracurricular activities, she simply said, "[I am] dedicated to service."

When asked to comment on her performance in the showcase, Patrick said with confidence, "After the prayer, I knew everything would be alright."

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Leadership seminar encourages students to 'think critically, learn eagerly'

By Delores Gullick
ARGUS REPORTER

"Learning to lead anywhere you want to make a difference," was the theme of the Winston-Salem State Student Leadership Institute 2002, held at the Radisson Hotel in High Point from April 5 to 7.

The Leadership Institute 2002 was structured so that students would be empowered through dissemination of information by seminar facilitators. Chancellor Harold Martin, who sponsored

the event, welcomed participants to "participate fully, think critically and learn eagerly."

The keynote speaker for Friday's evening dinner was the Honorable Loretta Biggs. Biggs is a justice on the North Carolina Court of Appeals. She said, "You should devote your life to service, and not just to be served. You must be willing to take risk and follow your calling."

"Leadership does not just happen, work on it, and nurture it."

Hector McEachern, chief diver-

sity officer at Wachovia, spoke during the first session.

He noted the importance of knowing where you are going and sending the correct message.

On Saturday morning, Derek Young, a motivational speaker and executive director of 100 Black Men of Tennessee, assisted the group in clarifying means of achieving goals and encouraged them to make the most of their college experience. He is also president and CEO of Young Motivation. Young said, "one

must begin with the mind and know your objectives."

Students were often divided into groups to work on various situations which might be encountered in the work place. The students were divided into groups for a final group exam called goal based Scenario II. In a managerial manner, they had to analyze and produce the answer to a question issued to them.

Saturday ended with *The Jackie Wilson Story* at K.R. Williams Auditorium.