

ask Maria



Q: Why does it take so long for financial aid to go through and for us to receive our refund checks?

A: Theodore Hindsman, the director of Financial Aid, said that financial aid is often processed at a slow pace because FAFSA information that comes in on the deadline, instead of early, causes a back-up. If it were submitted earlier, financial aid counselors would also be able to submit the information earlier leading to quicker processing time. In response to the late arrival of refund checks, Hindsman said that once FAFSA information had been submitted, the school had done its part. Loans, outside scholarships and other monies are subject to being disbursed depending on when the school receives the funds from the source.

Q: What is the purpose of light lunch and dinner?

A: Cafeteria sources say that light meals are a way to ensure that all WSSU students are able to receive some type of food service at any time throughout the day. Because some students might be unable to make breakfast, lunch or dinner at the specified times, the light menu is an attempt to make sure that no one goes hungry.

Q: Why is it that *The News Argus* doesn't run more stories relevant to African-Americans in society?

A: Keith Caesar, the editor-in-chief of *The News Argus*, said: "There is a limitation on what we can run every issue. Should an issue arise [concerning African-Americans] we will do our best to cover it. However, if there is a need for more stories focusing on black issues, we always welcome more writers who have an interest in covering such issues."

Ask Maria is a new column. Send questions to Ask Maria at newzargus@yahoo.com.

Three international students visiting WSSU

By Tanisha Blakeney
ARGUS REPORTER

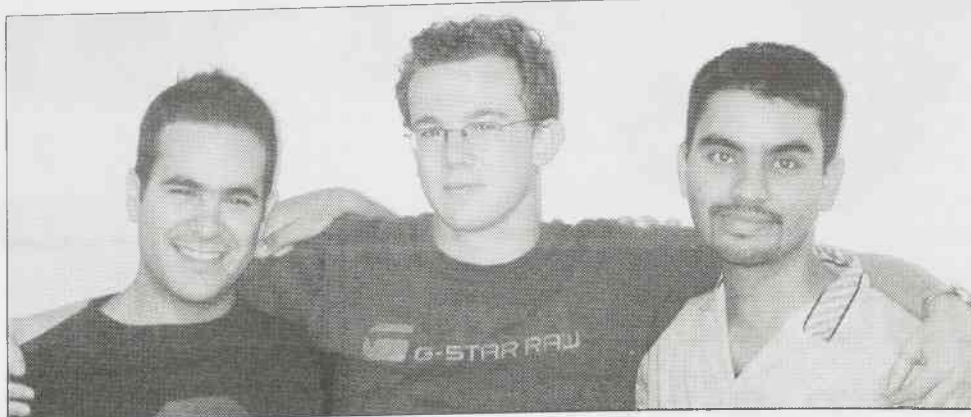
Winston-Salem State University has three students visiting us from different countries through the Study Abroad Program.

Juan Miguel Cardenas is a senior from ITESM Campus Guadalajara in Mexico. He is majoring in computer and physical science.

Cardenas chose to study in the country because of the advanced technology. He also liked the culture which he said is very different from his own. Cardenas likes being here but said, "It is hard to adapt to a different style of living."

Although he has had some bad experiences, he feels that all of them have made him grow as an individual. Upon graduating, Cardenas wants to pursue a career using computers. He feels that studying in the United States teaches students the social perspective of multiculturalism.

Pablo Torres is also a student



Argus photo by Tiffany Rook

Foreign students studying at WSSU are Juan Miguel Cardenas (from left), Bart Thomee and Pablo Torres.

from Mexico. He is a student at the Monterrey Tech System and is currently majoring in Management Information Systems.

After his year in the program and his completion of school, he is hoping to "go to Canada and establish a good career in his major."

Even though Torres misses his country, he was not at all hesitant in pointing out that the study abroad program is an excellent way to meet people.

The third and final exchange student is Bart Thomee.

Coming to us from the Netherlands, he is a computer graphics major.

Thomee is a rising senior who feels that the study abroad program builds up self-esteem. He also is a part of the football team.

Thomee chose this country because he liked the culture and says that the United States is advanced in technology.

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under way.

According to a letter posted on a Web site from Linda L. White, the supreme basileus for AKA: "While there has been public speculation that the incident involved Alpha Kappa Alpha, I want to remind you that we have no chapter of AKA at California State University - Los Angeles.

"You may recall we suspended the local chapter more than two

years ago over minor pledging infractions.

"If any individuals involved in the incident purported to represent AKA, they did so without the approval or knowledge of our organization.

"In fact, we are trying to determine whether the individuals involved have ever been members of AKA.

"We are fully cooperating with local authorities' investigation of this incident. While the details are still not clear, this is an appropriate

time to review the strict anti-hazing policy we have in place, as well as our procedures to strictly enforce that policy.

"Our anti-hazing policy is available at www.aka1908.com. We have and will continue to enforce these procedures with all chapters.

"I also want to make you aware that the family of one victim has filed a lawsuit against AKA over the incident. Obviously we cannot comment on pending litigation, however, we are committed to protecting the good name of AKA ..."

AFRICA, from page 5

for students to learn about various cultures and appreciate the experiences of others. Martin, who responded to questions passionately in the interview, sees the potential for the university and its students to prepare themselves for the global market.

"One of my priorities here is to create the chance for the students at WSSU, in increasing numbers, to have an opportunity to study abroad before the student graduates. We have to assure you [students] that when you leave this institution as a proud alum that you are prepared to do whatever you set your mind to do and have gotten all that you came here to get," explained Martin.

Dr. Oyelaran emphasized the need for students to both study abroad and interact with students

that come to WSSU. He too feels that the world is being globalized rapidly and students should be able to identify with all nationalities.

"The university is looking into offering more foreign languages to enrich all courses so that which ever course students take, they will have an understanding of how that course impacts the whole world. It would then be possible for students to go and live in other lands, because they will have experienced that culture firsthand," said Dr. Oyelaran.

The University of Capetown, Stellenbosch University, University of Western Cape, Peninsula Technikon, and Cape Technikon, located in the Western Cape province, were each visited in the effort to link programs there with the UNC-EP system.

"We want to be able draw from cultures other than just European or Mexican cultures. There are very few courses here that let you examine S. Africa and Africa. We want students to experience for themselves so that nobody else will be

their eyes and ears once they leave this institution," said Dr. Oyelaran.

The system currently includes 16 institutions within N.C. that provides students the chance to go Brazil, Germany, Denmark/Sweden, Finland, Mexico, Australia, and Israel to learn the full gamut of courses.

Full-time undergraduate and graduate students with a 2.75 GPA are eligible to participate and to receive credit towards graduation for either a full academic year or a semester. The cost of studying abroad is nearly equivalent to the cost of a semester or a year at WSSU. Most Federal or State financial aid will apply to the program.

Martin, who was on his first trip to the African continent, wants the university to be able to compete with any university in the country. There has been discussion of adding as many as 25 countries to the exchange experience.

Martin added, "We are a rich institution with rich history and rich programs. Our aim is to develop the best students."



MARTIN