

Freshman writing contest yields five winners

By Darius Cureton
SPECIAL TO THE ARGUS

Throughout the year, the English and Foreign Languages Department at Winston-Salem State University sponsors many activities and events.

During the fall (as in the spring), the department holds a "mix and mingle" session with its majors and minors.

This gives students a chance to spend time with their academic advisors and professors outside of the classroom.

The department has sponsored many speakers from Anthony Bowden, cultural historian and internationally recognized author and publisher, to Dr. Cedric Carl Dent, baritone, vocalist, arranger, producer and member of the group Take Six.

Among these speakers and programs, the department sponsors a speech contest that is held in the spring. This year the theme was "Souls of Black Folk: Centennial Reflections."

Students from different majors were given the opportunity to display their oratory skills at 2 p.m. April 15 at the First Freshman Writing Contest.

This contest was open to freshmen who were deemed by professors as outstanding writers. Faculty members submitted student essays in each of the five categories emphasized in first year writing courses.

The winner in each category received a cash prize of \$20, a voucher that can be used in the student union/eatery or the faculty dining room, and, most importantly, a chance to have their essays

published on the department Web page.

The names of the student authors were taken off the papers so that a panel of English professors could read these essays as anonymous texts. Out of 55 entries, the five winners are:

In the Narrative category, the winner was: Evelyn Robinson—"Loving Trouble"

In the Descriptive category, the winner was: Marisela G. Hairston—"Soul Mate"

In the Expository category, the winner was: Lisa Boone—"The Professor with a Writer's Heart"

In the Argumentative/Persuasive category, the winner was: Shannon Jones—"John Q"

In the Critical Analysis category, the winner was: Kristen Cheatwood—"Motifs of Light and Darkness"

SGA, from page 1

brought up by a female student.

"I cannot stand what she just told me. I get chill bumps when a young lady or man, whatever, tells me they called and could not get a ride," said Bell, who has been through more than 10 student murders on other campuses throughout his career.

Students also complained about the attitudes of personnel they spoke with when requesting rides late at night.

"I don't care what time it is. The police officers have a job to do," said Bell. "Any student mistreated by my officers — I want to know. I have zero tolerance for poor customer service."

Sutton stressed the importance of reporting issues to campus police,

even if it's about campus police.

"Come on down and talk to us," said Sutton. "You never know [what may come out of the situation] unless you come in."

Once Bell and Sutton wrapped up the forum with safety issues, Swink spoke about this year's homecoming, which will be Nov 2.

"For the past five years we've taken a lost in budget because of the homecoming concert," she said. "This year we seriously need to sit down and reconsider what we want to do with the concert."

According to Swink, artists for the annual concert, which seriously



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lacks student attendance, can cost anywhere from \$30,000-\$80,000.

"We don't have that type of money for artists," said Swink. "We lose most of our [homecoming] budget to the concert every year."

Swink asked the students in attendance to brainstorm on ideas that would take the place of the concert, which may be put on the back burner for the next couple of years. Suggestions included putting more money into the comedy show and possibly charging students to get in. That way, big-name comedians could showcase their acts.

Swink said the ideas could be presented at the next full student body meeting to be held before the end of this year.

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GAME ROOM, from page 1

an average of nine hours a week in the game room. He doesn't spend nearly as much time now, because he said, "When they took the pool tables out, they took out everybody's reason for coming to the game room."

Most damage to equipment is done between the hours of 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. and on weekends. It is possible that the pool tables will be

returned to the game room by the end of the semester, but with a new system in place.

Roseboro said, "We're going to a two-shift system. There will be adult supervision day and night. The games are for the enjoyment of the students," said Roseboro, "Not to penalize students."

The game room at the university opened in fall 1996 and was a high revenue-making entertainment center, Cumbo said.

This spring, the amount of rev-

enue gained from the room dropped, due to careless students. Sadly, those students who aren't in remiss are the ones who have to tolerate the consequences, Cumbo said.

"Anytime vandalism of school property occurs, students suffer, unfortunately," said Malloy, "It only takes one to make it bad for everybody else."

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GRADUATION, from page 1

"KRW holds around 1,800 seats, and it was packed wall to wall, so this December they will probably need a new place," said Cain.

What it all boils down to is that the December graduation, "gives more options and a quicker path," he said.

With graduation night around the corner, seniors are making their final preparations before stepping out into the real world. Job interviews, updating résumés and applying for graduate school are just some of the tasks.

So how do graduating seniors going through this process really feel, and what are their plans after graduation?

Kimberly Hollaway, a management information system major, is moving to Georgia to attend graduate school at the University of Georgia in addition to working. She expressed her feeling toward graduation as "sad because I'm going to miss the school environment my line sister and friends. On the other hand, I'm excited because I'm moving toward bigger and greater things after graduation."

The office of Career Services is open to students who would like assistance with preparing for life after college. Staff members see students by appointments to help explain various opportunities.

Donnel Holmes, who graduated last year from WSSU, is currently

working for American Advertising Association. He said, "Seniors must realize that this is a bad economy and do not get discouraged if you can't find a job. Keep up your persistence, and don't be afraid to take the smallest position."

Graduation is a big step, and Faith Herring is ready to make that step. After graduating she will live in New York while perusing her modeling career and waiting a year to attend law school. Her feelings toward graduation are bittersweet. "I'm very excited about moving on to the next level, but I will miss my friends, line sisters and school environment."

Tiffani Mills, a graduating marketing major, is nervous about leaving school but ready for all new challenges. She will continue to work at Wal-Mart as assistant manager for one year. Then move to New York as a buyer for a clothing store.

The most common misconception that college graduates have after graduation is that they are guaranteed a job or that a job will come to them. Even though it is springtime, and the weather is nice, come August when it is time for one to get a job, all the jobs are filled. The economy has dwindled due to recent event in the nation. Some job hunting tips for graduates are:

1. Start early, beginning your senior year. There are never enough career fairs and networking opportunities available.

2. Decide on what kind of job you

want, and then research.

3. Networking is essential. Talk to fellow student in the work field, previous employers, friends, professors, etc. that can help with process of finding a job.

4. Try everything from emails, to interviews, to referrals, to looking in the classified section of the paper. Being narrow-minded can only harm your quest in finding a job.

5. Don't procrastinate.

6. Be persistent. Don't assume that a job will come to you. Making things happen for you a key to success.

So to those graduating seniors thinking that they are truly prepared for the "real world," make sure that you have truly evaluated your position in the job force.

Networking is key, so preparation will allow life after college to be exciting.

Denise Simmons and Kimberly McPherson contributed to this story.

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Class officers, SGA leaders are elected

By Mary-Anne M. Joseph
ARGUS REPORTER

Last month, Winston-Salem State University was the home of a campaign battle for the Student Government Association and class offices.

The campus became littered with flyers with pictures and critical information about each candidate. At the end of the campaigning, voting was held April 9 in the commuter lounge of the Thompson Center.

The votes were close at times, and some didn't seem to stand a chance, but the results of these students and their offices are:

Student Government Association Cabinet
Kristie Swink, president
Antoine James, vice president of internal affairs
Ebony Briggs, vice president of external affairs
Safari Jeffries, treasure
Melissa Nelson, executive secretary
Shaundrelle Watson, secretary of judicial affairs
Will Smith Jr., secretary of commuter affairs

Senior Class Council
Maurice Thompson, president
Kiana Davis, vice president; by
Jenelle Dobson and LeSheryl Stoudremire, class representatives
Marissa Chavis, class queen

Junior Class Council
Tiffany Richmond, president
Phil Javies, vice president
Siobahn Day, treasure
Sophia Goddard, secretary
Tierney Billups, Sherea Cross and Quiana Lubin, class representatives
Kionna Kay, class queen

Sophomore Class Council
Stephanie Robinson, president;
Lori Lawson, vice president;
Camisha Chambers, LaJune Grant, Ebony Steed and Jennifer Timmerman, class representatives
Holly Price, class queen

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