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Political Science
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Students give mixed reviews of trip to Finland

Nicole Ferguson
ARGUS EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The accounts of racial tensions during a study-abroad trip to Finland by two Winston-Salem State University students are being disputed by other students and the program director.

This summer five WSSU students participated in the MIRT research program in Helsinki, Finland. Junior molecular biology majors Tiffanie Adams and Alethea Barrino said they experienced name calling and undo physical contact as a result of

racial tensions in the country. Adams said that because of the negative social climate, she was put in Finland jail for three days on the accusation of stealing equipment from her research site.

Although the students agreed with each other that the study abroad experience was worthwhile, they weren't all on one accord when it came to saying that negative experiences arose from racially charged attitudes. Camille Stanley studied hypertension at the BioMedicom center in Helsinki. The 21-year-old

chemistry major from Charlotte said that the study abroad experience provided her with unique opportunities.

"I feel like I learned a lot of stuff that I wouldn't have had the opportunity to learn in the U.S.," said Stanley. "Overall I wouldn't mind going back."

Part of the reason she would travel to Finland again is because of the atmosphere.

"The people were very friendly and open. Of course



WSSU juniors Alethea Barrino and Tiffanie Adams say they experienced negative treatment in Finland this summer because of the racial tensions in the area.

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Vargrave Street has been blocked off since the beginning of the fall semester, causing students, visitors and administration to find alternate routes.

Argus photo by Janell J. Lewis

Construction is still going strong

By Janell J. Lewis
ARGUS NEWS EDITOR

At the thought of construction, one of the first words that haunt one's mind is inconvenience, and although in many instances this is the case, the end product is nearly always a sight of better quality and beautification.

In the last edition of the News Argus, a brief overview was given of the next two phases of construction that will be taking place on the main campus. Phase I, which is taking place in the spirit of campus, is affecting nearly everyone — every student, faculty, administrator, and even visitor. The heart of campus has been gutted out in

hopes of unifying the campus with a pedestrian mall and clock tower. This phase is also intended to create a picturesque image of the campus.

Phase II, on the other hand is, more or less, only affecting those rams or visitors whose classes are housed in the Hall Patterson and R. J. Reynolds buildings. Beginning in January of 2004, the parking lot dividing the two buildings will be non-existent, as well as the lot attached to Hall Patterson.

Jorge Quintal, director of facilities management, assures those who are concerned that it will be an inconvenience, but it is definitely only for a temporary basis.

"We will close this parking lot for about six months, until about June. The parking lot won't be removed, but it will be closed, during construction. There will be no way to get in (those doing construction) if the lot remains there."

The two aforementioned parking lots hold a fairly large amount of spaces and the question of where those who park there will be moved has risen.

Chief Willie Bell said that he and Quintal are working together to find a solution to the faculty parking issue, but that's going to be a tough matter.

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Support WSSU after graduation

By Alyson Staton
ARGUS REPORTER

The spirit of service is what the Pre-Alumni Council believes in, and this year as they plan to inform students about the importance of supporting Winston-Salem State University even after graduation.

The council is developing some plans for the school year that will give the student body ideas of how they can participate and continue to give back to WSSU.

Formally known as the Student Alumni Relationship Association (SARA), the council is an extension of the Alumni Council and is designed to suggest ideas to students of how they can give back to WSSU once they have graduated.

"Our purpose is to further foster the spirit of service," said Mrs. Cheryl Pollard-Burns, advisor for the Pre-Alumni Council. "The organization is dedicated to enhancing service on the student level."

Ashley Blacktree, a junior molecular biology major, is the president of the organization. She said that by having student support WSSU through financial contributions, the students would be contributing to their education.

Junior accounting major, Candice Brown, is vice-president. She said that it is important for students to get used to giving back to their education.

"It is essential to the advancement of the University," Brown said.

The members of the Pre-Alumni Council said that supporting the school is a way of having a voice and helping to evoke change on campus.

In the past, the Pre-Alumni council has been involved in community service and college recruitment. This year they are planning to kick off the 1892 Funds Campaign. This campaign will involve organizations on campus by asking them to donate money to the school. The money raised through the campaign will provide scholarships for students.

Latinos may decide course of '04 presidential

By Jay Root

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS (KRT)

AUSTIN, Texas
When Republican George W. Bush blew into Del Rio, Texas, on a campaign swing in 1998, his use of Spanish and his ability to connect with Latinos made a believer out of Javier Martinez.

He voted to give the Republican another term as Texas governor and then to send him to Washington two years later. But Martinez, 55, a Del Rio businessman and host of a local radio talk show, won't be voting for Bush again.

"He does speak a little Spanish. He's very good at connecting with the

Hispanic community. That was the reason we kind of believed in him," Martinez said. "I think he's probably trying, but he's not connecting anymore."

Martinez's misgivings, and those of voters like him, could spell trouble for Republicans' efforts to gain a larger share of the increasingly important

Hispanic vote, not only in Texas but across the nation.

Amid persistent unemployment, uncertainty in Iraq and a racially explosive debate on congressional redistricting unfolding in the Texas Capitol, many Hispanic activists and

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