

Construction plans moving ahead

By Tammy Bankhead
ARGUS REPORTER

Winston-Salem State University is receiving a major face-lift. Construction sites are visible throughout campus. One area of concern for students is the pedestrian-walk building site. Barriers cause students and faculty to take alternate routes to reach particular buildings. In most cases this means a longer walk and a few extra minutes.

Questions are being raised as to when construction on the pedestrian walk will be completed.

The pedestrian walk is part of a \$46 million project called the Capital Construction Plan. The plan calls for improvement and/or renovations to existing sites such as the Health Science building. The project also includes the construction of new buildings. The Computer Science building is one of them. More renovations and new buildings are scheduled.

Students and faculty are eagerly awaiting the completion of Phase I to the clock tower/pedestrian walk. Phase I began in front of the Thompson Center. It continues down to the construction of the tower and down to the front of the library. Completion

on the site was scheduled for December. As we all know we've fallen short of that goal.

Jorge Quintal, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor/Facilities, did offer an explanation as to why the project has not been completed.

"Because of the weather and major utilities problems, development of the site had to be delayed. These were things that we had not foreseen or could have predicted," Quintal said.

He said that he anticipates phase 1 to be finished by the end of March and he hopes to have phase 2 completed in July.

"Phase 2 of the pedestrian walk continues from the library to MLK."

Quintal added that there are still a variety of projects to be completed. "This summer construction of a Student Health Services building and renovation will begin."

With spring fast approaching many students

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are looking forward to spending afternoons on the yard. The faster the walk way is completed the more time students will have to enjoy it. Hopefully the weather will cooperate, and there will be no more major problems. May the spring usher in the completion of the walkway and a renewed spirit of Ram Pride.

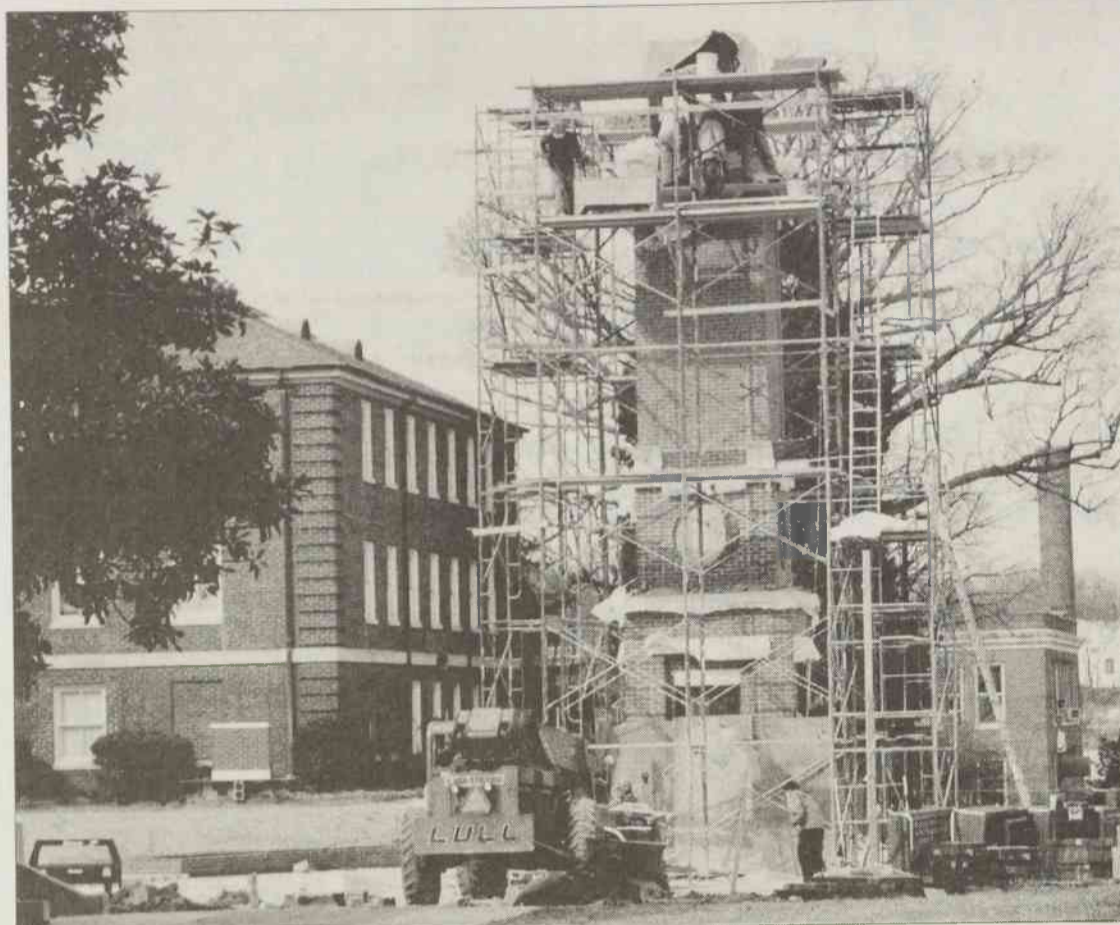


Photo by Keith Caesar

The clock tower is part of the beautification plan for the campus.

SECURITY, from cover

monitored during peak hours, from 8:30 a.m.-4 a.m.

Inman said that students continually prop doors open in the dormitories, allowing anyone to gain access to the residents, including persons that may be of threat to residents.

Bell referred to the Clery Act as something to be mindful of.

The act is named in memory of the late Jeanne Clery who was a student at Lehigh University in the late 1980s. Clery was raped and murdered in her residence hall. Her parents discovered that the students of LU were unaware of the crimes that had taken place at the university in the three years prior to their daughter's incident. As a result, all United States universities, public and private, are required to disclose crime statistics on their campuses and surrounding areas to the public.

To combat such incidents, Rams Commons has a clause in their assignment of fees to violators of the "propping door open" offense, charging them up to \$50 should they be caught on camera or in person in the act of propping doors open. Facility manager, Felicia Chacere says that residents assistants, or RAs, heightened their awareness on foreign visitors in the halls in response to the incident. Campus police are able to monitor the remaining halls through cameras that many students don't even know exist.

Cameras Monitor Students

Ashley Blacktree, a junior, requested a ride from the lower Rams Commons parking lot to her residential building. When she called for an escort, her request was denied for an unknown reason. However, the campus police informed her that monitors strategically placed around campus would follow her.

Blacktree said this didn't make her feel safer. She doubts cameras can zoom into her specifically when she's walking from the parking lot.

Although Chief Bell encourages all students to report if campus police refuse to escort them (unless the request is based on reason such as "I don't want to walk in the rain in the middle of the

day, so I'll call campus police), he verified that there are cameras monitoring student activity all over the campus.

"We have a 24-hour Monitoring Lab that was installed last year," said Bell.

The lab monitors more than 16 different locations on campus, including parking lots, and MLK Drive. However, the cameras aren't always monitored. The only problem with new, high-tech lab is that of the eleven patrolmen, Chief Bell, Lt. Marcus Sutton and the two secretaries, there isn't always somebody to monitor the cameras.

"As we (the university) grow more and get more buildings, we're asking to get more people also," said Bell. "That's where students can help."

"If they voice their opinion, the university will take heed to what they say they need."

Off-campus danger

On Jan. 14 confusion broke out at the Millennium Center in downtown Winston-Salem during a party hosted by a campus group erupted into a major police incident, with gun shots fired by patrons. The trouble followed club patrons to campus, causing campus and city police to get involved in securing the campus. Art Malloy, Associate Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs, was notified by campus police as soon as the disturbance was brought on campus. On Jan. 15, a detailed letter was issued under every students' door on campus advising them on how to stay out of harm's way as they participated in social activities off-campus.

"Enough is enough," said Malloy. "When you see students bringing off-campus fights on-campus, you have to draw the line."

"Once I heard of some of things going on I felt like it was a necessity to send out a notice to students not to frequent any place known to have violence."

Malloy says that the school is trying to solicit student interest in activities like bowling and skating nights, special guest speakers, student-organized gym jams and other activities that

"Hopefully, after awhile students get to the point where they'll begin taking advantage of the activities the university has to offer on a say a

Criminal Offenses on Campus

	WSSU	UNC-P
Aggravated assault		
2000	1	1
2001	5	0
2002	1	2
Burglary		
2000	29	15
2001	26	13
2002	40	13
Motor Vehicle theft		
2000	7	1
2001	0	2
2002	6	2
Arson		
2000	7	0
2001	0	1
2002	2	0
Forcible sex offenses (including forcible rape)		
2000	0	0
2001	0	3
2002	0	0

Friday night, rather than frequenting establishments known to be associated with danger."

Malloy, who oversees judicial matters at the university, has worked at WSSU for five years. He says the administration is well aware of the persons involved in things that cause disruption on and off-campus.

"I've seen a couple of groups, without naming the groups, that have become more and more unruly. We're addressing them one by one. It's not as if we don't know who's doing what."

WSSU is better in some areas

According to the U.S. Department of

Education's Office of Postsecondary Statistics, there were no accounts of murder, forcible sex offenses, nonforcible sex offenses or negligent manslaughter at WSSU for 2000-2002. There was one account of robbery in 2001, two accounts of arson in 2002, and one, five and one account(s) of aggravated assault in 2000, 2001 and 2002 respectively. Compared with a the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, whose size is comparable to that of WSSU with enrollment at about 4,400, the statistics are similar.

The OPE publishes these crime statistics for all college campuses in the U.S. annually. Statistics for 2003 will be available this spring.



Photo by Nicole Ferguson

Security towers are all over campus in the event emergency help or escorts are needed.

TURNER, from cover

academic excellence in the classroom as well as in school activities, and by an essay about how their attendance at a CIAA school has affected their lives. Their writing skills were evaluated. Students felt that the conference queen should uphold the standards of HBCU's as well as being given the title because of the previously stated criterion. Junior Mass Communications major Russell Clemons said, "I think the CIAA queen should have knowledge of what she is representing. She should not just have the title, she should be intelligent, and have duties to better the schools that she represents."

The week before the results of the competition were announced, Turner said that she was proud to represent WSSU in the competition and that she felt this was a great opportunity to be an ambassador for WSSU. "I think that the CIAA wants to encourage

others to become aware of each of the campus queens in the community. This competition is an opportunity to enhance the responsibilities of the queens and their roles in their perspective schools. Each queen is an ambassador for her university. This gives an opportunity to represent among other schools. The competition is more of a friendly competition. The community and students vote for the winner, which gives each contestant an equal opportunity. I am really excited to be a participant," Turner said. Students felt that the CIAA's decision to add the contest to the meritment was a wise one. Junior Therapeutic Recreation major Ebony Fowler said, "The pageant was something different that enhanced the CIAA celebration." Senior Therapeutic Recreation major Alecisha Smith felt similarly. She stated, "I think that all of the HBCU queens competing for one title was a very good idea. Those who are in charge of the CIAA should have thought of this sooner."