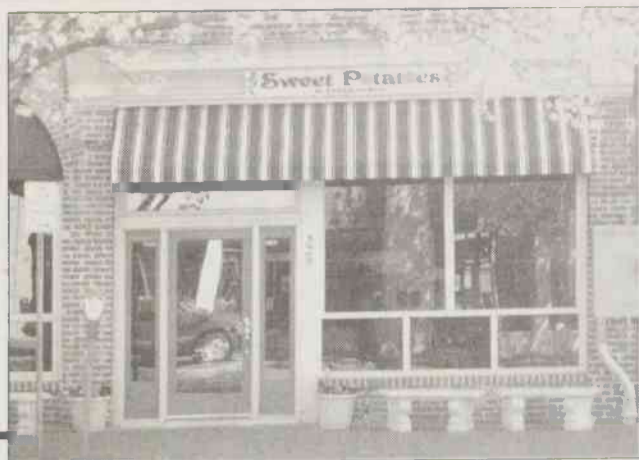


Campus NEWS



If you like sweet potatoes, you'll love Sweet Potatoes. See page 7

Ram parents get support with new club on campus

By Layla Farmer
ARGUS REPORTER

School is hard enough, but for many students at Winston-Salem State University, school is only part of the equation.

Many women and men on campus are juggling a full time school schedule with the responsibilities of taking care of a family as well.

Ayanna Ross, 22, is an example. Ross is a junior and a Special Education major who is taking 18 hours this semester, but that's not all. Ross's son, Zamar was born in June 2003, and since then life got a little harder for her and her boyfriend Erin Wood, who is also a WSSU student.

The couple lives in Concord, N.C., and Ross commutes to school every Monday morning, not to return until Wednesday night after class. She is forced to leave Zamar, now 9 months, at home.

"It makes me feel bad sometimes," Ross said, "I feel like I should be there with him."

She goes on to say that she knows she is doing the right thing in continuing her education so that she can ensure a better life for her son.

On Fridays, Ross must make the hour long drive to attend one 50-minute class. She says life has really changed for her since Zamar was born. She doesn't have as much time to do things with her friends as she used to and sometimes her friends want to do things that wouldn't be appropriate for a 9 month old, so Ross often declines invitations so that she can spend more time with her son. However, she says her grades have improved since Zamar was born.

"I realized there's no more playing around," she said, "I've got to get done."

Recently, Wood and Ross have found a group of people who understand their daily challenges. A new club, called Rams With Lambs, was founded with

college parents in mind. Rams With Lambs was founded as a result of Lorenzo Meachum's brainstorm last fall. Meachum said that he saw more and more new parents on campus each year, and he wanted to do something to help them make the difficult transition from student to parent.

Rams With Lambs was founded as a result of his concern for the students who were taking on this great responsibility. The hope of Rams With Lambs is that it will help parents to balance their busy lives more effectively, so they will not become discouraged and leave school behind altogether.

Just as importantly, Rams With Lambs aims to provide fellowship and support, adding resources and fun along the way. The club has lots of big ideas for its members. Plans are in the works to establish a baby-sitting co-op, a clothing and baby item exchange, and, someday, an online chat room and website.

The meetings are designed with children and parents in mind, with refreshments and activities for the children, and flexible meeting times for the parents. The number of parents on the roster is growing, and now Rams With Lambs is open to prospective students who will be attending WSSU in the upcoming Fall semester.

The group is comprised of men and women on campus who have a vested interest in getting the most out of their college experiences without compromising the time and energy it takes to raise a happy child.

Rams With Lambs hosted its first cookout at Triad Park, where there were hotdogs and hamburgers for everyone and plenty of room for the children to play together.

Rams With Lambs wants to give its members a chance to facilitate changes on the campus of Winston-Salem State University that will hopefully make their educational journeys a little easier, and a

lot more pleasant. Though things are just getting started, Ross said she's excited about the club.

"I hope to have a group of people I can identify with," Ross said. Ross hopes enrollment in the club will increase as people find out about it, and she said that anyone who is interested in joining can contact her at <mailto:ramswithlambs@yahoo.com>. There is still time to get involved this semester, and lots more going on within the club before the summer.

Enrollment in the club is still open, and there are no dues. Everyone who signs up for the club will be added to a roster.

Members receive e-mails regularly, which keep them on top of what is going on in the club, even if they have to miss a meeting. Ross and Wood have found a way they can socialize and make new friends without compromising their quality time with Zamar. What more could any parent want?

Crosswalkers Warned



These safety warning signs were mounted on the Rams Commons side of MLK. Several students have been hit by cars at Winston-Salem State University this year.

Photo by Nicole Ferguson

Students are encouraged to get an MBA

By Lisa Boone
ARGUS NEWS EDITOR

Earl Granger, associate director of recruitment at Kenan-Flagler Business School of UNC-Chapel Hill, encouraged students in all majors to consider pursuing a master of business administration degree when he spoke last month on campus.

Granger was a speaker at a gathering arranged by the undergraduate MBA Club of WSSU. Joining him was Brandon Woodward, a second year MBA student, who helped Granger explain the benefits of obtaining a MBA degree.

"The MBA allows opportunity to pull a lot together. It is one of the most credible degrees available to increase your ability to transition from one occupation to another," Granger said. He added, "The MBA is a time consuming, yet a lucrative degree. You should know why you want the MBA and remember that it is all about time management."

Woodward echoed his sentiment. He ensured students that the MBA was not a degree that would come without hard work. "Going back to business school was the best decision I have ever made... The MBA program is not at all an easy task," he said. "The first year in the MBA program is in warp speed; you are assigned to a learning team, taking a set of core classes that everyone takes

at the same time, and trying to balance all of this with everyday activities."

Among other things, Granger and Woodward informed the audience of the criteria for admission to MBA programs; the types of MBA programs; how to finance an MBA degree, and then they opened the floor to discussion.

Helene Cameron, director of WSSU's Career Services, also promoted the idea of an MBA degree. "Once you have the skills, no one can take them away," Cameron said.

Senior business administration major, Kendrick Parks, described the session as "very informative. Brandon Woodward is proof that hard work and determination are key attributes to being successful. I plan to obtain an MBA degree in the near future from one of the top twenty business schools, possibly UNC-Chapel Hill," Parks said and added: "I hope students have a better understanding of what an MBA is, why they should pursue an MBA, and how to prepare for an MBA as a result of the visit from the UNC-CH representatives."

Kasseem Smith, a sophomore business administration major, said, "I thought this program was beneficial to the club members and other students as they prepare for graduate school. This program falls in line with the club motto, 'Preparing undergraduates for a career in business.'"

WSSU students have a variety of summer plans

By Layla Farmer
ARGUS REPORTER

The air is getting warmer, the sunshine is plentiful, and most of us can't help but turn our minds to summer, for it is nearly upon us. That coveted three month break is almost a reality once again. Students at Winston-Salem State are getting restless, like students everywhere, and many are making their summer plans. Some are looking forward to a string of lazy days with little on the agenda but cookouts and parties, while still others are gearing to work.

Crystal Davis is one student who won't spend her summer idle. In fact, where working and playing is concerned, Davis, a junior Mass-Communications student, is planning to do a little of both. The first half of her summer, Davis said, will consist of working and squandering her checks so she will have the funds to finance the second half of her summer: a month long trip to Jamaica. Davis says she will be shadowing a woman who is a

publicist for both *Source* and *Vibe* magazines, trying to learn her trade.

"I want to get a feel for the music industry," Davis said. And though she will be working hard, Davis says there will be plenty of time for play.

She plans to leave the U.S. on the weekend of July 12, which has her arriving just in time for the annual Red Stripe Reggae Sum Fest in Montego Bay.

The Red Stripe Sum Fest is a six day long concert featuring reggae artists. It will run from July 18-24 this year. In the past, the Red Stripe Reggae Sum Fest has featured artists such as Tanto Metro, Devonte, Shaggy, Jay-Z and Beenie Man. The concert is strategically placed in one of the top tourist locations in Jamaica, Montego Bay. Montego Bay offers patrons of the Red Strip Reggae Sum Fest the opportunity to take full advantage of white sand beaches and a wide array of activities such as scuba diving and water sports. Montego Bay also has a historical element, featuring restored house that dates back to the English planter days, and seafood is a

must, with a variety of top rated restaurants overlooking the waterfront. With all this in store, Davis is looking forward to a very eventful summer, but Davis isn't the only one who will be getting things done this summer.

Janet Boulware is planning to work too. Boulware is a freshman and a Mass Communications/Spanish major. She plans to take nine hours in summer school this year. "Because I'm a double-major" she says, "It will help me catch up."

After she finishes summer school, Boulware plans to work full time at Foot Locker for the remainder of the summer, but she is hoping she'll be able to squeeze in a little time for a beach vacation at some point.

Like Boulware and Davis, many students at Winston-Salem State see the summer as an opportunity to get caught up, or to get ahead in school. But we should all remember that sometimes it is just as important to get caught up (or ahead) on our sleeping or relaxing so we will be ready for the new semester when it starts in the fall.



WSSU students have various summer activities planned including visiting Jamaica, working and going to summer school.

File photo