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To marry or not to marry, that is the question

Jerome Hancock knows where he's headed

Mr. Ram and Miss WSSU speak out

CAMPUS NEWS

Married African American couples fare better than their unmarried counterparts

By Dreama Williams
ARGUS REPORTER

Winston-Salem State University students Tasha Barnett and Aaron Little met through a mutual friend, and the couple has been together ever since. They've even discussed the possibility of marriage.

If they do decide to marry, they will find that marriage brings important benefits. A study released in October by the New York-based Institute for American Values found that married

African Americans are "wealthier, happier and choose healthier behaviors than their unmarried peers, and their children typically fare better in life."

Both Little and Barnett said they believe they have a clear understanding of what marriage is all about. "It's about love, being loyal, being respectful, and being each others friend," they said jointly, smiling at each other.

The study, "Consequences of Marriage for African Americans: A

Comprehensive Literature Review" also found that African-American boys who grow up in two-parent homes are less likely to get into trouble and they also tend to do better in school.

One of the recommendations to come out of the report was that policies aimed at increasing marriage rates and marital quality among African Americans should focus on "tax reform, reducing domestic violence, providing culturally-relevant marital education and

counseling," among other efforts.

Ja'Nate Boulware and George Croom are another couple on campus. They, too, met at WSSU. Boulware said she believes the cornerstone of marriage is trust. "Without trust nothing will follow," she said.

Boulware added that her parents taught her the importance of friendship in a relationship. "My parents were friends a long time before they got married," she said.



File photo
Some people choose to marry, while others do not.

Jerome Hancock says he sees his future behind the camera

By Steven Gaither
ARGUS STAFF REPORTER

Jerome Hancock, a junior mass communications major from Jacksonville, N.C., is a budding director/editor. Hancock can be found in the Mass Communications editing lab 24/7 — at least it seems that way. Argus staff reporter Steven Gaither sat down for an interview with Hancock to find out where he gets his drive.

Q: What are some of the projects you have worked on?

A: I've done three projects — two music videos, which I plan on trying to put on Ram TV, and a commercial.

Q: Which do you prefer: videos or commercials?

A: The commercial isn't really

all that, but the music videos are great.

Q: How long have you been directing and how did you get into it?

A: I've only been directing for two months. I always knew I wanted to do something in the entertainment field. At first I was focused on being in front of the camera as a news anchor or a VJ, but I realized not many people stay in front of the camera for long. You get real longevity behind the scenes and behind the cameras. I also edit, which is what I love to do along with directing, they go hand in hand.

Q: Have you done anything in the entertainment field prior to directing?



Photo by Steven Gaither
Jerome Hancock has spent time in front of the camera and behind the scenes, and said his calling is to be a director.

A: I had my own show on Ram TV when I was a freshman. It was called "The Lymelight," and I was the host. I was in front of the cam-

era and I liked the attention, but I always knew that the people that make the real money in the entertainment field are those behind

the camera, the people who are shooting, directing, editing and so on. It's good to learn these things, because not everybody is gonna be a Denzel Washington or a Halle Berry. I had to humble myself and realize that you don't have to be in the limelight to be successful.

Q: Who are some of the directors you look up to?

A: Some of my role models in this field are Hype Williams, Little X and Benny Boom, all great directors.

Q: What are your plans for the future?

A: I plan on directing shows as well as writing, shooting many more music videos, and, of course, editing shows and videos.

Javies wants to help others

By Evelyn Robinson
ARGUS REPORTER

When Boston native Phil Javies visited Winston-Salem State University for the first time, he knew it was the place for him. The family atmosphere reminded him of the sitcom "A Different World," and he was hooked.

Now a graduating senior, Javies, who is WSSU's Mr. Ram, is certainly a beloved member of the family he adopted. And he, in turn, has not let his family down. Javies is a double major, studying elementary education and sociology, with a concentration in social work. He is the founder of Raging Rams, a member of Black Men for Change, the Campus Activities Board, Campus Pals, Ram Ambassadors, Mozik Modeling group, and he was the 2004-2005 senior class president.

Javies said a typical day for him involves "basically serving the school, along with being a graduating senior. I am doing my field work for sociology, my student teaching, attending meetings of the different organizations that I am a part of, sitting in the breeze-



Photo by Garrett Garms

Phil Javies, in his role as Mr. Ram, wants to be remembered as the voice that stood up and spoke out for students.

way listening to students and their problems, and then going back to the room to sleep and start all over again."

For his role as Mr. Ram, Javies said he received an initial clothing stipend to cover the cost of two suits and accessories, and he also gets free housing.

"I want to be remembered as that person who always speaks and talks to anybody, always willing to help anybody out," he said. "I want to be known as the ear as well as the voice that stood up and spoke out for the students."

Tiffany Richmond says representing student body as Miss WSSU the most satisfying part of the job

By Tiffany Cash
ARGUS REPORTER

Senior mass communications major Tiffany Richmond is Miss Winston-Salem State University. However, she said it's not the crown or title that she finds most appealing. It is the service.

"I actually enjoy representing the student body more than wearing the crown," Richmond said.

The job has its perks: Like Mr. Ram, Richmond received a clothing allowance and free housing. However, she pays for everything else, such as getting her nails done. "I try to get it done if not once a week once every two weeks. I get a manicure if there is something special I have to attend.

Serving as Miss WSSU has required a humble spirit and dedication, and Richmond said she has no regrets. "When it's all said and done, and my reign is over on July 1st, knowing my reasons have been accomplished will be just enough for me."



Photo by Garrett Garms

Richmond believes serving as Miss WSSU requires a humble spirit and dedication. She said she has no regrets.

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