

OPINION

From the Editor:

Erin Perkins accepts position as editor of The News Argus

Erin C. Perkins
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I am so excited about the 2006-2007 school year!



PERKINS

Not only am I a senior, but I am also the Editor-in-Chief of *The News Argus*. An opportunity that brings me much pleasure,

privilege and honor. I have diligently written for *The News Argus* for three ongoing years. I am doing what I love and bringing my passion to the students of Winston-Salem State University.

This year we have upgraded from a monthly publication to a bi-weekly

newspaper. Like many of you, I am looking forward to the paper becoming a more timely publication. We are considered a world-class institution, so it is only befitting to make changes accordingly.

It is the shared goal of the staff and myself to bring WSSU's students an appealing, newsworthy and honorable publication that best represents the university.

I promise to do the best that I can to continue to let *The News Argus* reign as the eyes and ears of the campus.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, I am open to the insights and feedback of our readers. Letters can always be sent letters to the editor at *The News Argus* email newzargus@yahoo.com.

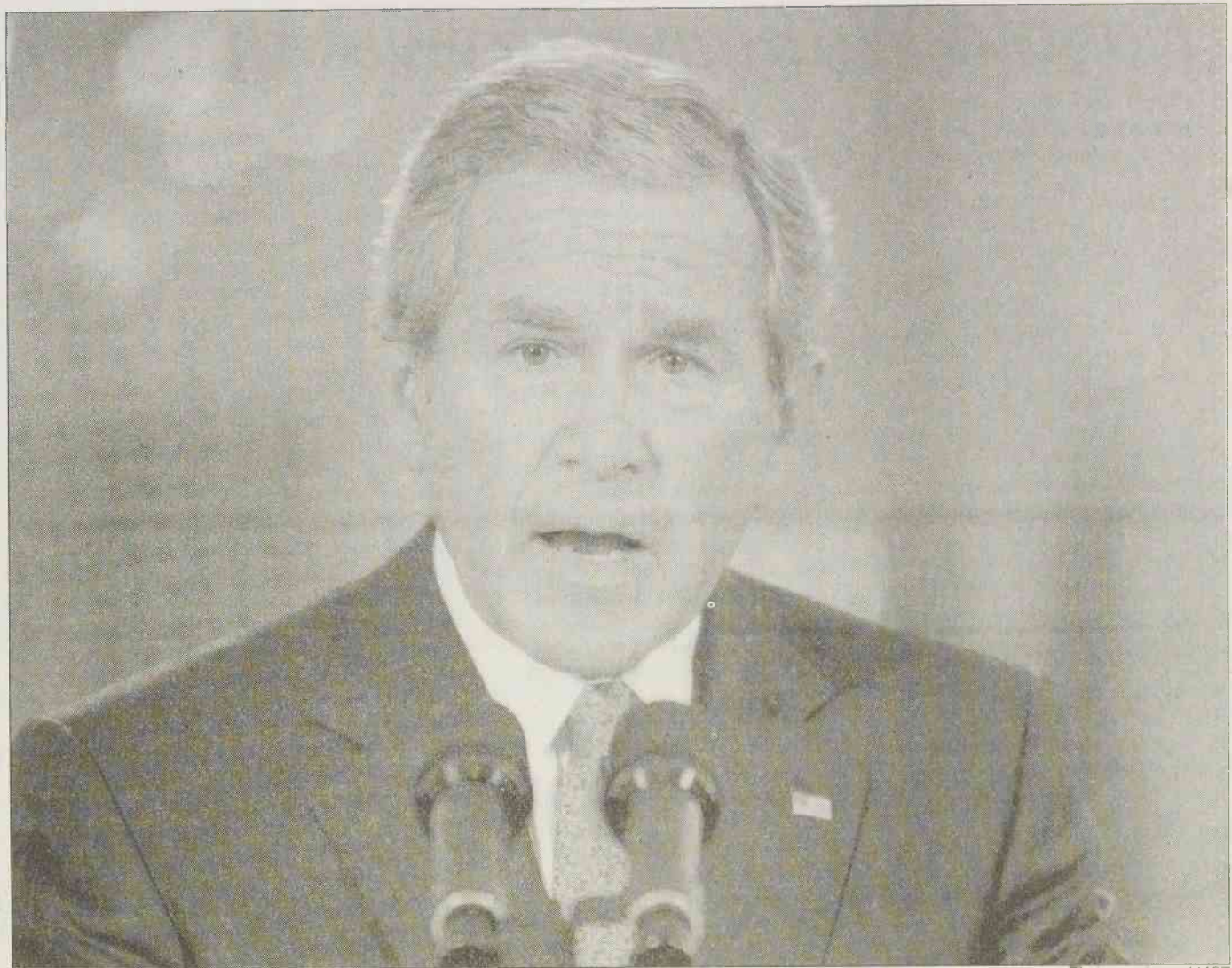


Photo courtesy of MCT

President George W. Bush is interested in drilling for oil in the Arctic.

Are miniskirts appropriate for the classroom?

By: Tamika Green
NEWS ARGUS STAFF REPORTER

This is college. There is no mandatory dress code, but there is an unwritten one, one that mature collegiate adults should learn to follow. You know that old saying, "There is a time and a place for everything"? Well, that rule applies to some of the fashions that can be seen around our campus. Just because a certain article of clothing is "in" does not mean that it is appropriate for all occasions.

The miniskirt, for example, is definitely a very cute item that is appearing everywhere this season. However, I would not recommend wearing it to class. I hate to sound like a "killjoy," but it does create a distraction. Plus, we are going to class to learn, not going to the club to get our party on.

But how short is too short? Let's just say that if you have to pull down your skirt with each step you take, it's probably a good idea to save that one for a night out with the girls. So, you may be asking, "How can I wear this trendy piece of clothing and still look appropriate for a classroom setting?" Well, one thing you can do is pair it with a cute pair of leggings, an item that also happens to have made a comeback this fall.

In addition, you may want to evaluate the length of your skirt before walking out of the door. Remember the "fingertip test"? For those of you who need a memory jog, this is when you place your arms straight down at your sides and see where the bottom of your skirt falls in relation to your fingertips. If the bottom of the skirt falls above your fingertips, it might need to stay in the closet until the weekend. This skirt shouldn't be worn to class.

Believe me, no one is happier than I, to be free of dress codes. However, there are just some things I feel are not quite appropriate for the classroom atmosphere. Before you walk out of the door in the morning, take a moment to think about where you are going and what is appropriate attire for that location.

President Bush strikes again

Terri Day
NEWS ARGUS STAFF REPORTER

Once again the Bush administration has said one thing and done another.

Recently, the president was involved in a tour of "listening sessions". The apparent goal of the "sessions" was to "listen" to the United States public about its stance on environmental laws.

However, when it comes to actually listening to the American public on issues of environmental legislation the president seems unwilling or unable to take a stand that will protect our rivers, forests and wildlife.

Of course, the "listening sessions" can't help but draw comparisons to the president's infamous "town hall meetings".

Those meetings, which were supposed to be an objective look at the feelings of the public toward the president, became nothing but gentle tongue bathings. The "town hall" that was supposed to represent the rich tapestry of a diverse America, was a sham and it turned out to be a meeting of Bush enthusiasts, forced to sign sworn "letters of support" to the president, before they would be allowed to enter.

The feeling that anyone

who does not agree with the president on environmental issues, will not be allowed in, much less to speak with the president, cannot be easily shaken. However, if the President wanted the true feelings of average Americans about the environment, his "listening sessions" would hardly be necessary.

He has weakened vital environmental laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act, and has slashed renewable energy funding that would pave the way to lower emissions standards and cleaner air.

Old growth forests are

being cut down, and Bush is eyeing the Arctic oil fields like a St. Bernard on a steak.

And of course, the public is left watching as its leader does what he wants, with little or no regard to the repercussions, to the people or the land.

Imagine that the "listening sessions" will go as well as his "town meetings" during the re-election campaign. And as long as he's in office Bush will continue to ignore the cries of the people and run the country his own way. No matter what his constituents have to say about it.

Entertainers ought to stick with what they know

By Harold Smith
NEWS ARGUS STAFF REPORTER

The entertainment industry has become a cash cow for many entertainers, especially those who are looking to expand on their craft.

A popular trend which has become frequent in the past 15 years is rappers appearing more and more in movies.

This trend arises from that when movie producers are looking for a character to have certain personalities or mannerisms, such as a "thug." They know a certain rapper can fill this role and be convincing because they do it everyday.

Many rappers are successful because they are portraying the same character they play everyday, the names just changed.

Rappers like Will Smith, Tupac Shakur, Queen Latifah and a few others have really earned a name for themselves and gained respect as actors.

However, many rappers are given a hard time by thespians and real actors because they believe they are stealing work from the people who need it.

In a 2002 article on Allhiphop.com, actor Samuel L. Jackson explains that as a classically trained

thespian, it is not his job to lend credibility to rappers by appearing in movies with them.

Actors have also tried to play their hand in the career crossover but have had no success.

Brian Green of the show *Beverly Hills 90210* released an album in 1996 but failed to make a dent in album sales.

Jamie Foxx who has won an Academy Award, has found huge crossover success for not only possessing the talent, but having the necessary connections in the music industry.

The problems that many entertainers face when "crossing over" is their lack of credibility in that craft.

No one will respect a so-called rapper if they can't freestyle or they have been on any mix tapes by a popular DJ or even have a co-signature from a well-known artist.

And an actor is not recognized as an actor until he takes the proper classes and is acknowledged by his peers in that particular profession as a credible actor.

The bottom line any entertainer needs to remember is, respect the craft and do it the right way and you will be successful at it.

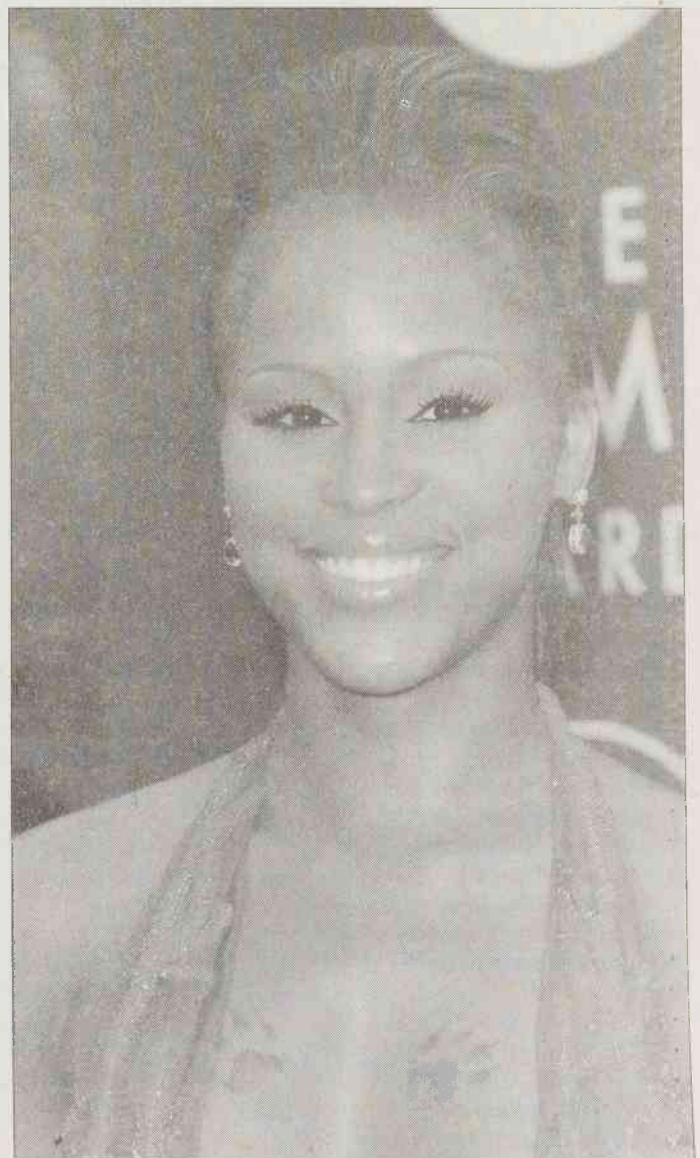


Photo courtesy of MCT

Rapper-turned-actress Eve is having success as a crossover.

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