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THE NEWS ARGUS

www.thenewsargus.com

Winston-Salem State University's Student Newspaper

Jan. 29, 2007

Evers-Williams speaks up for all

Tiphane Deas
MANAGING EDITOR

A diverse crowd of students, faculty and community members packed Dillard Auditorium Monday night, Jan. 15, for the Seventh Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration well before its scheduled 7 p.m. start time, so much so that an overflow room had to be arranged. Hundreds came to help make the yearly collaboration between Winston-Salem State University and Wake Forest University a success, and to commemorate the birthday, life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

This year's planning committee, co-chaired by Dale Williams from WSSU and Kendra Steward from WFU, and made up of members from both institutions, decided on the theme, "On Common Ground ... Committed To The Dream," a continuation from last year's theme, "On Common Ground."

To help elaborate upon this idea, they invited as the keynote speaker the inspiring Myrlie

Evers-Williams, wife of civil rights activist and murder victim, Medgar Evers. Evers-Williams, a graduate of what is now known as Alcorn State University and a civil rights and political leader in her own right, recalled her early experiences as an activist in the volatile state of Mississippi, her fight for justice in her husband's decades-long murder investigation, and shared her thoughts on current world events as a challenge to everyone in the audience.

"I have had so many people to say to me, 'You're living in the past, let it go.' There is no way that I could let it go," Evers-Williams said. "I still know the scent of racism, and when I smell it, the hair raises up on my back, and I say to myself, 'It doesn't matter how tired I am.'"

Evers-Williams was especially pleased to witness the long-lasting relationship between WSSU and WFU on issues of race and injustice. It is a relationship that dates back to 1960, when students from



Photo by Lee Adams

Civil rights activist Myrlie Evers-Williams speaks at Winston-Salem State University about the death of her husband, Medgar Evers, and the trial she endured in seeking justice.

both universities staged a sit-in together in downtown Winston-Salem. She linked the cooperation to a relationship that Medgar Evers, as president of his junior class at Alcorn State University, initiated between their college and

a predominantly white institution. Evers-Williams made another important connection during her speech on Sunday night between what went on in the civil rights camp during the Vietnam War and the wars that are currently taking

place in Iraq and Afghanistan. She recollected the jealousy and discord that arose among civil rights leaders when King took a stand on Vietnam, and his reaction to it.

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No longer a dream

Nathaniel E. Woods
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The groundbreaking ceremony for a memorial honoring slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. took place in Washington, D.C., in late 2006. This project will be the first national memorial for an African-American and non-president on the National Mall, and it will be built in the same city in which King delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech during the March on Washington Aug. 28, 1963.

"An assassin's bullet could not shatter the dream," President George W. Bush said in his speech about King's legacy. "It continues to inspire millions around the world."



Photo courtesy of MLK Jr. National Memorial Project

Emotions ran high at the groundbreaking ceremony last fall for the Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial.

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Roseboro inducted into CIAA Hall of Fame

Steven J. Gaither
SPORTS EDITOR

Al Roseboro, a Winston-Salem State University alumnus and the "Voice of the CIAA" was elected to the CIAA Hall of Fame on January 15, 2007.

Roseboro has held the title of "Voice of the CIAA" for more than 30 years. He has

announced more than 30 CIAA basketball and football championships. Roseboro was a guard on WSSU's football team. After graduating, he served as tennis and volleyball coach at WSSU and is still the winningest volleyball coach in school history.

In 1991, Roseboro took over for legendary basketball coach and long-time Athletic Director "Big House" Gaines, serving his alma mater in that capacity for six years. He also served as Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs before retiring in 2004.

Roseboro's connection to the CIAA goes way back, even further than his days as a football player at WSSU. A star athlete at West Charlotte High, Roseboro was acquainted with high school coach Jack

Martin, an official for the CIAA. While driving with Martin to WSSU for football games, Roseboro met Gaines. Gaines became his mentor and a critical part of his life.

"He was a father figure," Roseboro said of Gaines, who passed away in April 2005. "Without God and Coach Gaines I would not have been able to do the things that I've accomplished."

After meeting Gaines, Roseboro knew WSSU was the place for him.

"From tenth grade on, I knew I was going to be a Ram," said Roseboro, who was inducted into the C.E. Gaines Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005 for meritorious service.

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Time to Stop and Reflect

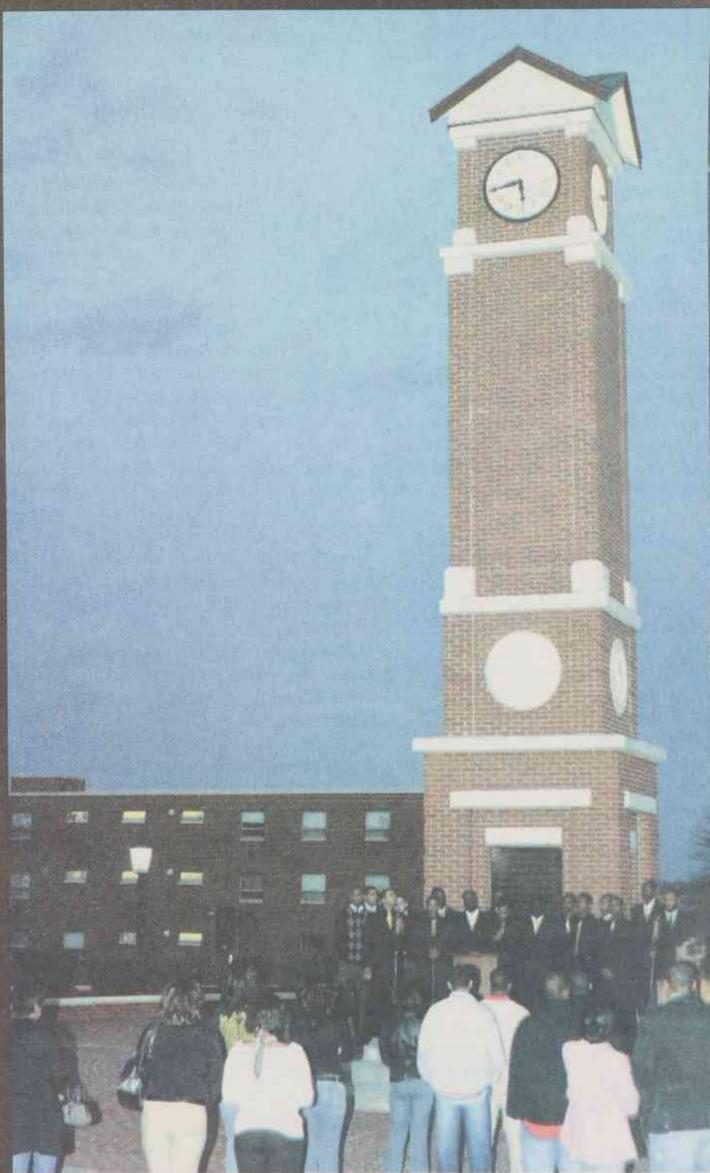


Photo by Garrett Garms

Members of the Beta Iota chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity held a candlelight vigil in memory of their most famous brother, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.