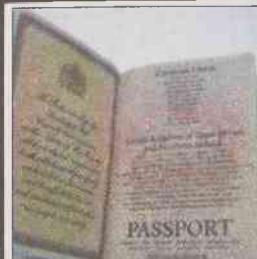




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# THE NEWS ARGUS

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April 23, 2007

## The Rammies puts students in the spotlight

Tamika Green

NEWS EDITOR

Lights, camera, action! The Rammies was the place to be on April 4. The star-studded event took place from 7 to 9:30 p.m. This was an affair to remember, serving as a creative way to recognize and honor outstanding student achievement in WSSU's mass communications department. People from all majors were invited to attend.

According to senior mass communications major Vicki Smith, 21, dedicated students had been preparing for the Rammies since the beginning of February.

"It was a good turnout," said Smith. "Everyone seemed to be well entertained. This is probably the best showcase of what the Rammies is all about. I'm just happy everyone came out."

The Sixth Annual Rammies Awards kicked off with the famous red carpet proceedings, in which attendees were asked about their fashion choices for the evening. Seniors Jessica "Diddy" Parson and Erica McLeod were the hosts for the red carpet.

"It was great to see my fellow classmates take their dress codes to a higher level. The men looked fabulous that night! The girls were looking elegant as well. It looked professional, and the live band really added an elegant touch to the evening," said McLeod.

After everyone had officially strutted their stuff on the walk of fame, they gathered in the Anderson Center's McNeil Banquet Hall for a night of food and entertainment. The live band, none other than WSSU's own, provided the music for the night.

The master of ceremonies, junior Theodis Chunn, started things off with a bang as he paraded through the room to the stage. Thirteen awards were presented while everyone dined on delectable finger foods and lemonade. The presenters used humorous skits to keep the crowd excited as they presented the well-deserved awards.

Perhaps the most memorable part of the night was the video parody of Young Jeezy and R. Kelly's hit "Go Getter" performed by senior mass communications majors Johnathan Wedlock and Franklin Terry. This song received a new twist, with the term "go getter" replaced by "mass comm'er."

"The video was a fun thing to do," Terry said. "It was fun, and I enjoyed working with very professional people."



Glamour and glitz hit the red carpet at the annual Rammies Awards.

Overall, the evening was a huge success, ending with an impromptu mix and mingle. Students and faculty alike enjoyed themselves tremendously.

Marvin Lattimore, senior mass communications major, said, "It [the Rammies] was marvelous. It was popping. Everyone worked really hard."

Tecarra Sutton, junior English and mass communications major thought, "It was really nice. It was fun to dress up. I loved the [mass communications promo] video; it was really creative."

Siobhan Kelley, senior mass communications major, said, "I think that this year's Rammies was the best put together production by the mass communications students."

Sharrod Patterson, junior history major, said, "I loved it. It was great. I'm glad I won, and the video presentations were off the chain."

The 2007 Rammies was undoubtedly a magnificent event. "I thought the Rammies was an excellent event this year, it was well put together and it will definitely give the class of 2008 something to compete with," McLeod said.

Alonzo Turner, sophomore mass communications major, said it best: "The Rammies theme this year was 'A Star-studded Event.' There's no doubt that the stars showed up and showed out."

### RAMMIES WINNERS

1. Best Editorial Tamika Green
2. Best Newspaper Feature Steven Gaither
3. Best Radio Announcer Marvin Lattimore
4. Best Television Short LaToya Porter
5. Best News Package Jovan McLean
6. Best Television Host Jerome Hancock
7. Best Television Reporter Ashleigh Taylor
8. Best Photography Sharrod Patterson
9. Best Television Promo Jessica Parson

There were also extra awards given to acknowledge extraordinary achievers within the department, students and faculty.

#### Stephen A. Smith Student Journalist of the Year Award

- Steven Gaither  
Wendie A. Norton Award  
Ashleigh Taylor  
Shooting Star Award  
Mr. Todd Davis

## Memorable Moments

Look inside spring 2007 commencement ceremony

Tracey Bowen

STAFF REPORTER

Lights ... Camera ... Graduation!

May 5, 2007, cannot come soon enough for some graduating seniors. As the countdown continues, final touches are being made to ensure that the commencement ceremony will be one of the most memorable moments for the spring 2007 graduating class.

Among other details surrounding the big event is the selection of the commencement speaker. Graduates are in for a special treat, as this year's speaker is a well-known, respected mentor and friend of the Winston-Salem State University family.

Former WSSU Chancellor Dr. Harold Martin is scheduled to speak at the 9:30 a.m. commencement ceremony. Martin is eagerly anticipating his visit back to campus and his participation in the graduation ceremony.

"I'm excited about it! I know many of the students personally, and I feel that speaking at graduation will give me the opportunity to come and wish them well as they go forth into the world," he said.

Having departed less than a year ago from WSSU, Martin is now the senior vice president of Academic Affairs for the UNC system. Although WSSU's faculty, staff and student body wished him well on his promising new position, he is still missed by many at the university.

"I am pleased to hear that he is returning to speak at this year's commencement," said 21-year-old graduating senior and two-term SGA President Quentin DeBerry. "He is a great role model and has truly been missed by the Winston-Salem State University family. It will be great to see his face around the campus again. It's nice to know that he's coming back to wish our class well in our future endeavors."

With the graduating seniors having much to look forward to, they and their families can rest assured that the spring 2007 commencement ceremony will be filled with memorable moments.



Dr. Harold Martin



Last year's graduates anticipate their walk across the stage at Joel Coliseum.

## Fonzworth Bentley tells Rams about hip-hop industry

Erin Perkins  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Hip-hop renaissance man, Fonzworth Bentley, arrived at Winston-Salem State University April 12 to share with students his personal experience and insight about the music industry.

Bentley, who gained national fame for being Sean Combs' personal assistant, was on campus as part of Boost Mobile's "The Game Behind the Game" panel discussion. WSSU alum and radio-personality of 102 Jamz "Wildout Morning Show," B-Dah, hosted the discussion.

During the forum, Bentley described his rise to stardom, beginning from being

a pre-med student at Morehouse University to traveling to New York with aspirations of becoming an entertainer, to working at a NYC Ralph Lauren Clothing store, being at the right-hand side of Sean Combs, and now a rising hip-hop artist and fashion designer. The panel encouraged dialogue among students about the industry on a personal and direct level, through the experiences of artists such as Bentley.

He discussed the importance of confidence and "branding yourself."

"Can't" is not in my vocabulary and it won't be in yours after today," Bentley said. "There is

something powerful in speaking. I believe you speak things into existence," he added.

Bentley suggested to the audience that everyone purchase a journal or what he referred to as a "bleeding pad." He stated that writing or doodling thoughts daily provides self-reflection and leads to self-discovery. He also recommended it as a method to discovering how to brand oneself as well as seeking the insight from those closest to you. He stated that everyone has a color that distinguishes who that person is as an individual. "Ask your real friends — not associates — to tell you what color you are," he sug-

gested.

Account Coordinator Nichole Felix, who worked close beside him throughout the day, gave her own insight to Bentley's color. "It is green because he has a fresh perspective. He is vibrant and lively all the time as well as articulate with a helpful insight."

As a public hip-hop figure, Bentley's "fresh perspective" on his celebrity status has helped him recognized his self as a role model.

"Once you are on TV, you are a public domain, you now have a responsibility."

A responsibility that does seem to have hindered his spirituality.



Fonzworth Bentley meets a group of WSSU students.

"What motivates me? My father in heaven, everyday...as a role model, you have to be a fisherman of men."

Following the panel dis-

cussion, the Stomping on the Yard Tour presented by Boost Mobile held a Yard Festival at 5 p.m. and the Annual Spring Step Show at the C.E. Gaines Complex.