

OPINION/EDITORIAL

From the Editor

Changes and challenges face the administration, the university and *The News Argus*

By Steven J. Gaither
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In the past three years, I've written a lot of stories for *The News Argus* and other publications, but I have to admit this is probably the toughest thing I've had to write since I decided to become a journalist my senior year in high school.

I didn't just want to say "Hi, my name is Steven J. Gaither and I'm senior a mass communications major from Statesville, North Carolina." Nor did I want to attempt to wax poetic about the day I decided to become a journalist.

So as I thought about what it was I wanted to say to you, I thought I should look in the dictionary and find out what journalism means. The American Heritage Dictionary defines journalism as "The style of writing characteristic of material in newspapers and magazines, consisting of direct presentation of facts or occurrences with little attempt at analysis or interpretation."

And that is exactly what *The News Argus* will be this year, and we hope, every year from now on. The staff wants the *Argus* to be a source of information to the students of Winston-Salem State University. As the voice of the student population, we want to ask the questions you want the answers to. We also want to bring up issues that students may not hear of otherwise. Good, bad, or ugly, we will strive to capture this moment in time as accurately as possible.

Since former WSSU Chancellor Dr. Harold L. Martin took over in 2000, WSSU has undergone a renaissance that continues to this day. WSSU has experienced an explosion in the student population, the athletic department has

jumped to Division I status and the university has undergone major structural changes, both architecturally and academically.

On August 15, Dr. Donald J. Reaves officially became WSSU's new Chancellor.

Soon after Reaves took over, WSSU regained the top spot in U.S. News & World Report magazine, the seventh consecutive showing by WSSU in the last eight years.

Despite this remarkable accomplishment, there are still some issues that remain unsettled. Over the summer, the Chancellors Office, under Interim Chancellor Michelle Howard-Vital, released the Chancellor's Commission on Community Safety. The report found that most students have a poor or non-existent relationship with the local community and that there is a disconnect between the students and the university faculty and staff. The committee also found there is a lack of school spirit on campus, and also that students don't recognize the importance of reporting illegal behavior.

Earlier this year, WSSU ended its two-year-old capital campaign some \$16 million short of its \$35 million goal.

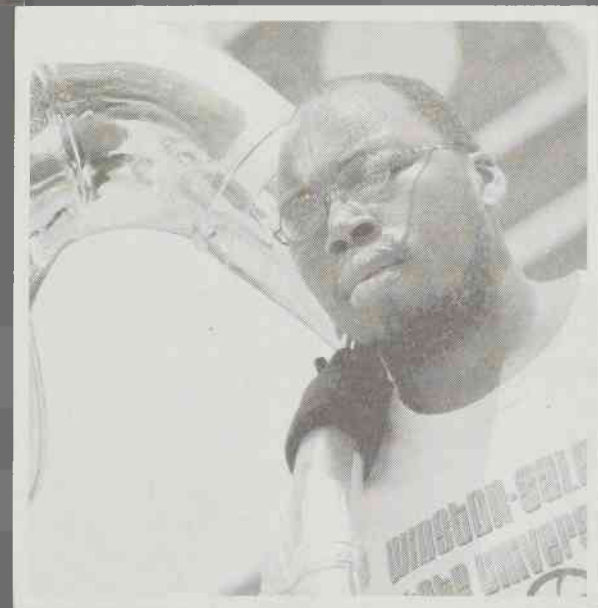
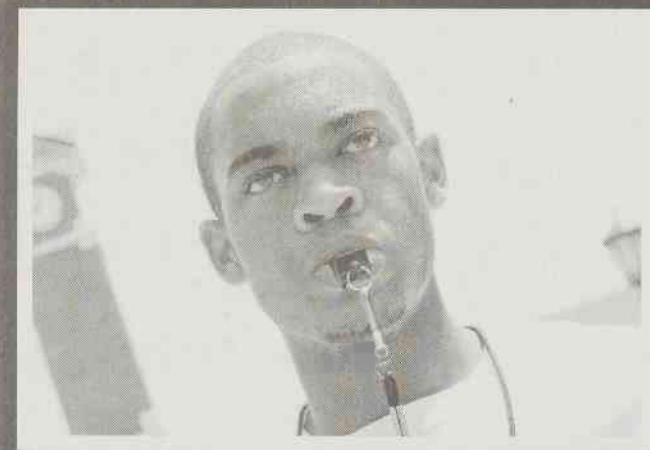
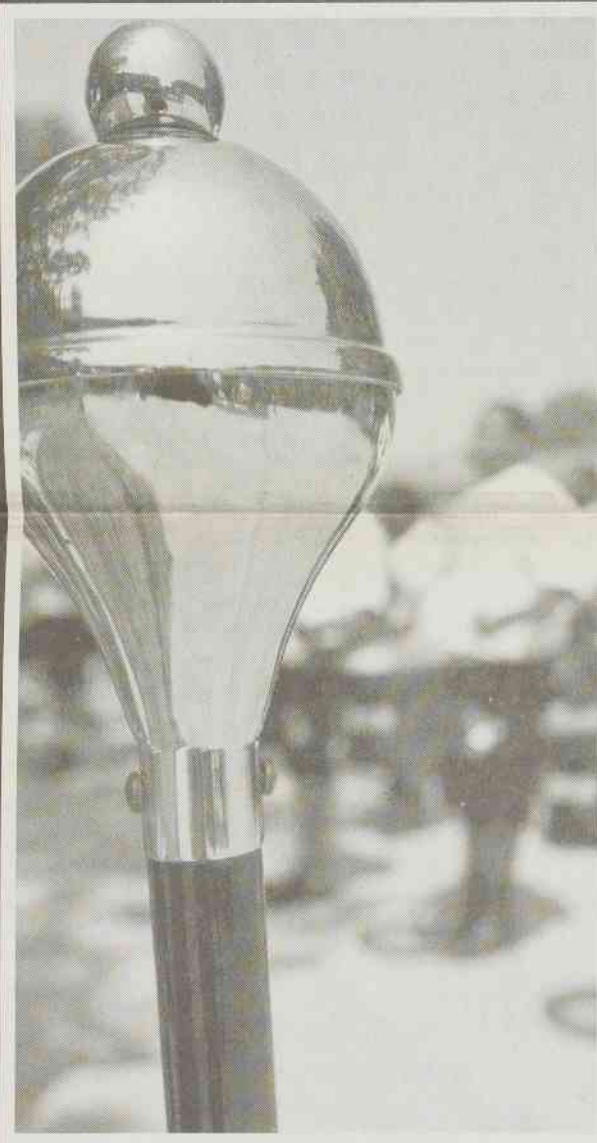
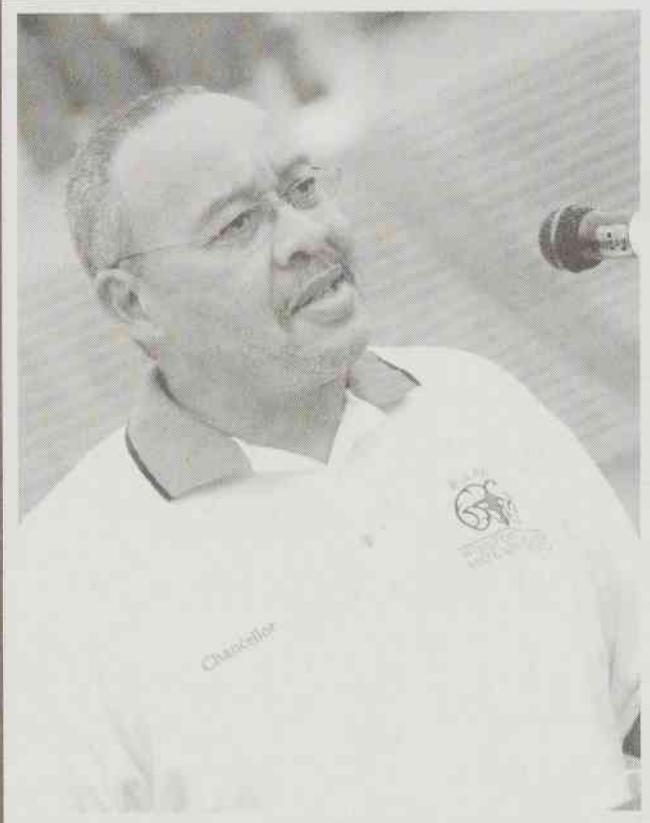
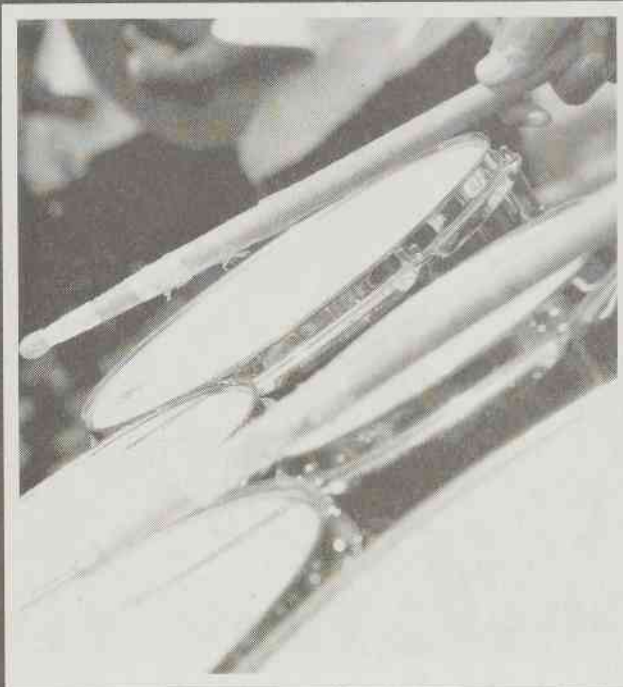
All told, it's an exciting time to be as student at WSSU and we at the *Argus* pledge to do everything we can to keep students up to speed with what is going on.

If you have any questions or story ideas, please contact *The News Argus* at newzargus@yahoo.com.



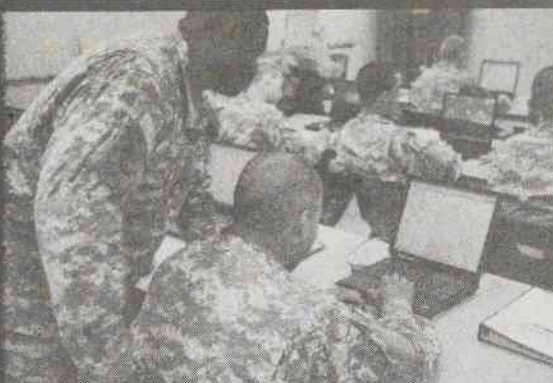
Gaither

The Chancellor's Picnic



Photos by Garrett Garms

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