



Love and marriage

Page 2



Candidates speak out

Page 3



In Focus: Numbers count

Page 6

# THE NEWS ARGUS

www.thenewsargus.com

Winston-Salem State University's Student Newspaper

Feb. 25, 2008

## CHUCK D: 'You betta be a nerd with it'

Stephanie Douthit  
Grant Fulton  
ARGUS STAFF

Chuck D., founding member of rap group Public Enemy, spoke to Winston-Salem State faculty and students, members of the community, and fans as part of Black History Month celebrations on Feb. 12 in Dillard Auditorium.

When the crowd rose and applauded his arrival, Chuck D., born Carlton Douglass Ridenhour, returned the favor and clapped for the audience members. With a small turnout of approximately 60 people, the atmosphere was relaxed and intimate.

During his speech, Chuck D. discussed the importance of education.

"We're living in a country that's not giving a lot of props to intelligence," he said.

He also mentioned that the media focuses mainly on trivial things, like fashion and gossip, and neglects more pressing issues.

He also addressed the

representation of well-educated individuals in the media.

"Collegians are not well-represented," he said.

Later, he explained his fondness for speaking at HBCUs. "I am able to speak differently because the black student body is faced with different circumstances in the real world, and they are faced with three times as many obstacles," Chuck D. said.

"These facts make the lecture more meaningful," he added.

In addition, Chuck D. stressed the most important benefit of attending college—gaining quality education. "College is a portal to the rest of the planet," he said.

While on the subject of college majors, Chuck D. said that students must know their chosen field thoroughly. "You 'betta' be a nerd with it," he said.

The message seemed to resonate with Jason Lewis, a recent WSSU graduate.

"He [Chuck D.] is a true

example of how being persistent in hip-hop should never negate your thorough understanding of popular culture today, in terms of black history and definition," he said.

Other audience members also seemed to enjoy listening to Chuck D.

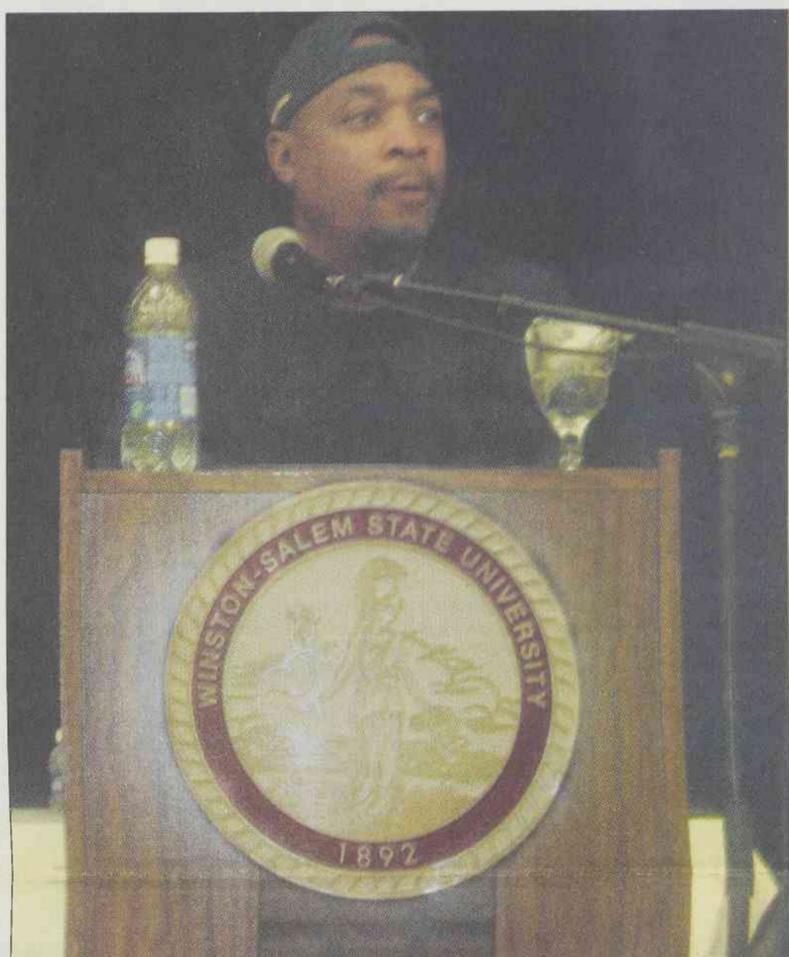
"He related well to the audience using today's entertainment as it relates to our past but relevant history," said Ebony Pullen.

The program was scheduled to last from 7 to 9 p.m. However, many people in attendance did not leave until well after 11 p.m.

Chuck D. also talked about hip-hop, and its influence in the community as well as the world. He told the audience that the history of rap captivates popular culture and will forever remain a part of American history.

"Hold on to your history. It is taught, but it is not repeated," he said.

JARRIAN JACKSON CONTRIBUTED TO THIS REPORT.



Hip-Hop legend and activist Chuck D. spoke at Winston-Salem State on Feb. 12.

Photo by Grant Fulton



BEFORE: Old Glory shows its' wear and tear on a gloomy winter day. AFTER: The Stars and Stripes fly high after being replaced from the circle at the main entrance to WSSU.



Photos by Grant Fulton

## \$\$%\*&()\*\_(\$%#@&^\*!!!! @##@\*^%\*#! Crude language doesn't cut it on campus

Grant Fulton  
PHOTO EDITOR

What's with the Profanity?

When using profanity around campus, do students ever stop and wonder if their words are affecting the others around them? Is it unprofessional to curse around a college campus, even though there are no parents telling students what is right and wrong?

"I feel that cursing is not a great thing to do at any time, but I especially hate it when ladies curse a lot because I feel that it's not very lady like and that is a turnoff for me," said freshmen Eric Walker.

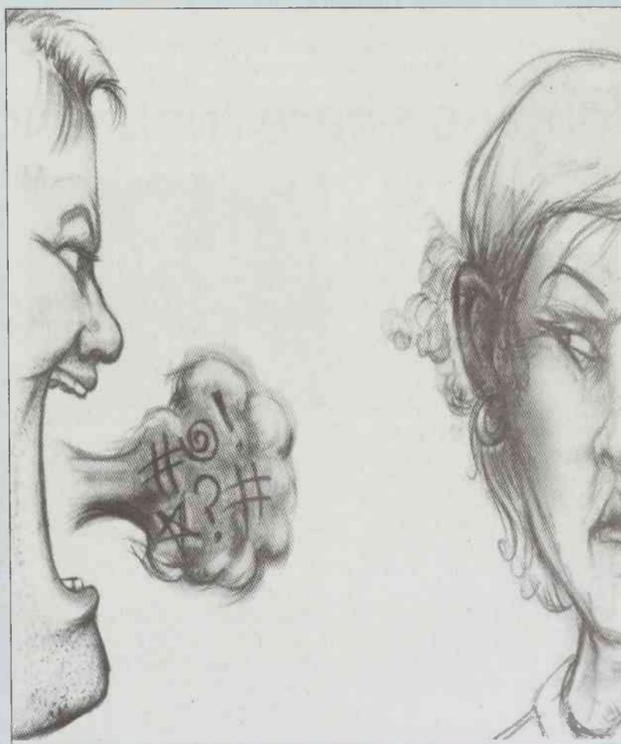
Junior Cornelius Hector feels that cursing on campus is disruptive.

"It bothers me when I see people just going around campus just cussing and for no reason whatsoever, but I cannot judge them because I curse also," he said.

Students cannot be sure who is listening to them when they use profanity. Those listening could be a teacher or they could be someone significant; such as a future employer.

Some students say they feel that cursing is a form of expressing themselves, and in order to get a point across they have to curse at someone to listen or understand.

"I don't think it [cursing] is necessary, and we all need to learn how to control our emotions and to use other vocabulary other than using profanity. It is not professional to use pro-



Graphic courtesy of MCT Wire Service

fanity in the workplace, and it's something that people who curse need to work on before entering the workplace," said Spanish Professor Tika Hood-Owens.

A recent poll on thenewsargus.com revealed that over 64 percent surveyed felt that profanity on campus was offensive and inappropriate. 24 percent said that profanity does not

offend them and 14 percent said that it didn't matter, one way or the other.

"I really don't see any objection through profanity, but if anything, it should not be used in the classroom just for professional reasons. It's used in the real world, so I don't think there should be a penalty for using it," said senior Trey Artis.