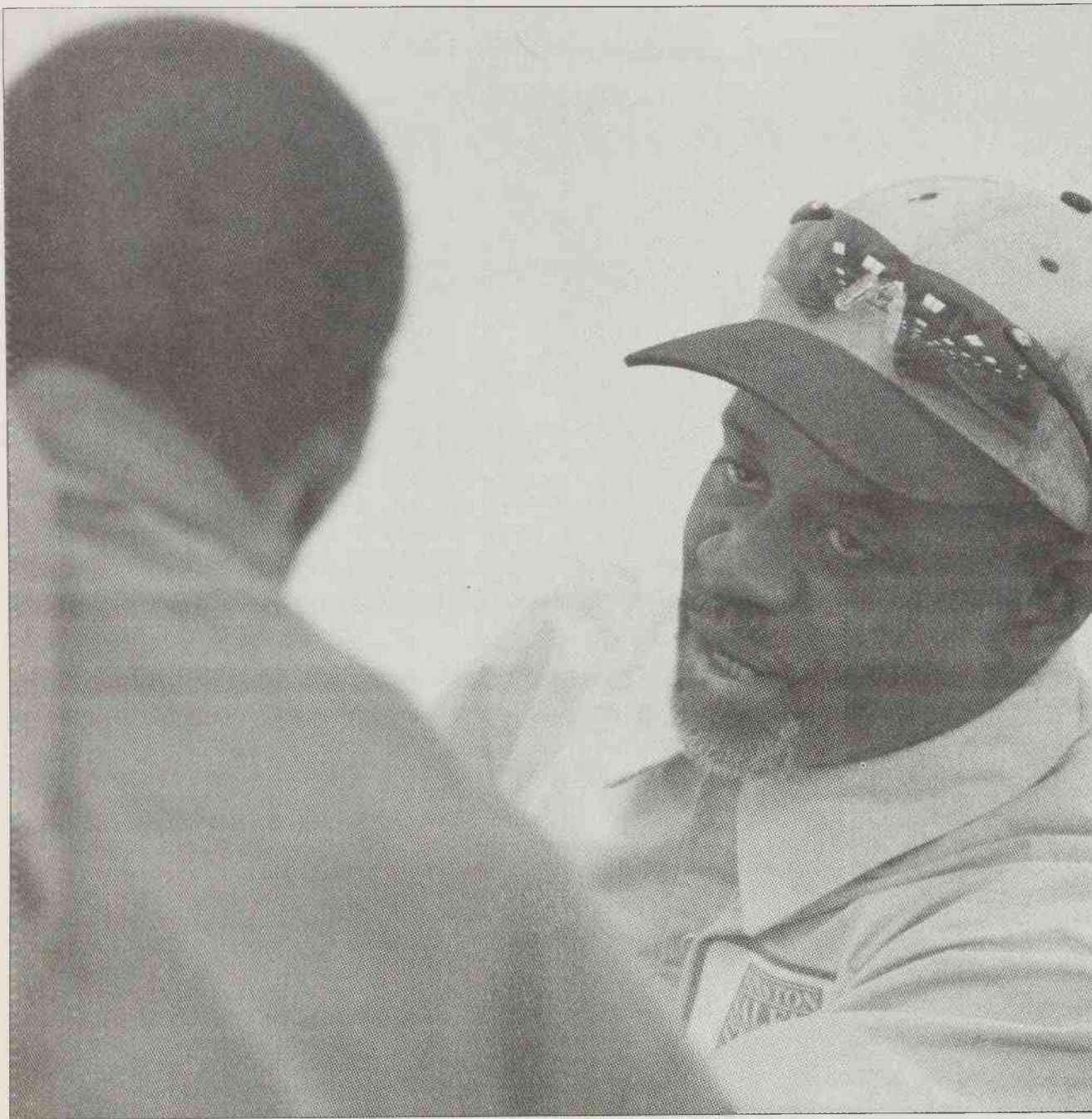


FEATURES



ABOVE: The facilities department employs about 50 workers in housekeeping
BELOW: A Winston-Salem State worker makes his way across campus.

Photos by Garrett Garrms

Behind the Scenes

Recognizing people you may not know

LaTasha Miles
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The campus community may not always realize what it takes to keep Winston-Salem State clean and running smoothly.

The employees behind the scenes — facilities and food services departments in particular — are vital to the appearance of the school and its health.

This is especially important to the university because of influential visitors such as prospective students, scholarship donors, and guests.

The facilities department employs about 50 workers in housekeeping and 20 in grounds/maintenance. A representative of Aramark, whose employees work in food services, said there are about 135 workers at WSSU. Two employees in management are WSSU alumni who chose to return to serve their university. These units, often not in the spotlight, are significant parts of what makes WSSU work.

Spring is an especially busy time of year. With the season changing, it's time for daffodils and flowering trees and shrubs to blossom; also, the campus is in the midst of events such as the Chancellor's Installation and the Mass Communications conference. With graduation swiftly approaching, there will be an increase in the number of visitors on campus.

Melvin Nash, a native of Winston-Salem, is a proud parent of a son, Javon, and a daughter, Natasha; and an even prouder grandparent, with a grandson named A.J.

Nash works in the facilities management sector. He has been in this field of work for 20 years and with WSSU for 12 of those years. He has several of jobs in this department, including landscaping, recycling, and sanitation.

Nash even enjoys the little things that come with his job, like uniforms

When asked about wearing uniforms, he says, "They are convenient and it makes the department look more unified."

Nash also added that employees can choose to work overtime during events such as homecoming, upon checking with their supervisor. However, he said he draws the line at applying for supervisory positions.

"I am five years away from retiring," he said chuckling.

Nash's favorite tasks on his job including driving the campus golf carts and recycling. Although he sometimes feels underappreciated, he said, his work speaks for itself.

Gregory Lowery is also a native of Winston-Salem. He is single and an active chess player. He is employed with Aramark food service and has been at WSSU since September.

This is his first stint within the field. He also agrees with Nash about wearing uniforms: "We know who we are, and they know who we are."

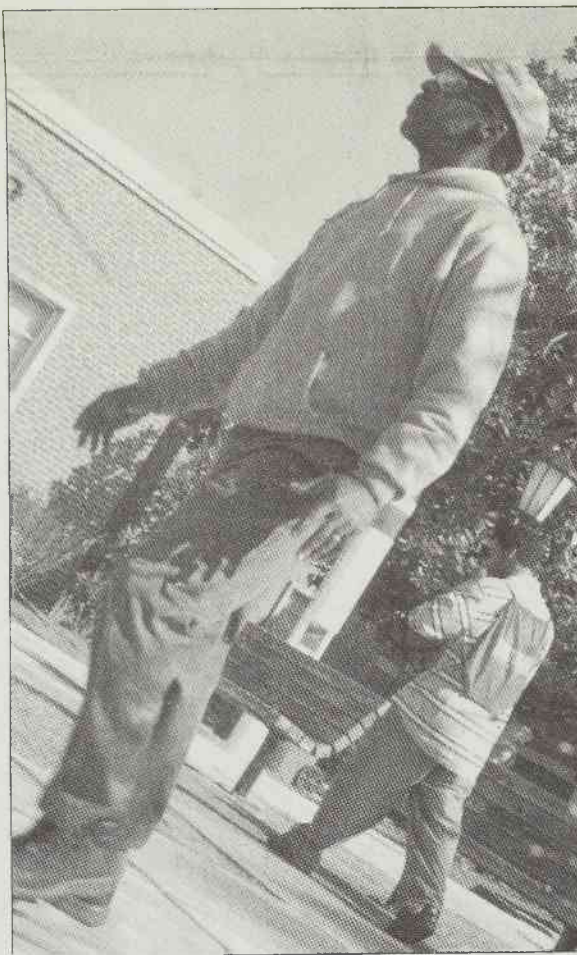
When it comes to overtime, the schedules are basically set, he said. Someone is always covering the shifts, no matter the event. There is a lot of flexibility, and Aramark is willing to adjust if necessary.

Besides the flexibility, he said that some of his other favorite things about the job are that its convenient and the students are friendly. He also wanted to recognize one of his co-workers, Phyllis East, who helps him out in his department.

Lowery does a variety of jobs every day, but says his favorite task is "making sure needs are met for the students to eat comfortably. I am very content and to God be the Glory," he said.

Kathy Amos, from Winston-Salem, works in the Housekeeping Facilities unit. She will be celebrating six years with WSSU on May 1. As a whole, she has been in housekeeping and supervising for 25 years.

In her spare time, she enjoys



crocheting and is an excellent pool player. As a matter of fact, she plays in the American Pool Players Association (APA) and has won over five trophies. She is also a grandmother of eight, and the anchor of her family. She says that she is being strong for them right now.

Amos also agrees with Nash about wearing uniforms. She says they are all right but has added an interesting suggestion, saying that their staff should wear the school colors in their uniforms.

Currently, their uniforms are khaki. She says that overtime is available sometimes and the department lets them know when it will come up. Her favorite part of the job is the benefits and the fact that she works alone.

When asked whether she feels like what she does is underappreciated or if her work just speaks for itself, she said, "My work is noticed by some, and some don't care."

Her favorite times of the year to work are during spring break, fall break, and observed holidays. When school is not in session she can get more done, she said.

"I like to treat people like they treat me," she said. "I like to help when there's help needed, if I can."

BACK in the DAY

Larry Williams
STAFF REPORTER

50 years ago this week:

Arnold Palmer wins his first Green Jacket in the Masters Golf tournament, according to the *Winston-Salem Journal*, April 14, 1958 ... Dwight D. Eisenhower is the first president to fly in a helicopter, flying from the White House to an undisclosed mountaintop retreat, according to *The New York Times* ... meanwhile, New Yorkers participate in Operation Alert 1957, one of a series of nationwide preparedness drills conducted during the Cold War.

35 years ago this week:

From the April 14, 1973, edition of the *Twin City Sentinel*: 22 youths survive a wreck in Marion, S.C. A Salvation Army bus loaded with 22 children collides with the back of a station wagon ... Six men die in a plane crash in Greensboro, N.C. ... The movie line-up at the Bel-Air drive-in theater this week is "Boxcar Bertha", "Bloody Mama", "A Bullet for Pretty Boy", and "1,000 Convicts and a Woman" ... Ford is advertising its Pinto automobile: "Fight the Gas War with a Pinto. Over 20 miles to a gallon" ... 8-track audio tapes cost \$1 each ... "The River Niger," a black play, is on Broadway.

From the April 14, 1973, edition of the *Pittsburgh Courier*: Mrs. Coretta Scott King placed a wreath at the tomb of her husband, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., to mark the five-year anniversary of his assassination ... A University of California education professor suggests that reading and writing should not be required of children until junior high school ... The television show, "Sanford and Son," gets renewed for a fourth year of shows on NBC ... A three sound up album set featuring The Temptations, Al Green and James Brown costs \$9.75.

25 years ago this week:

From the April 14, 1983, edition of *The New York Times*: By a margin of 40,000 votes, Rep. Harold Washington (Democrat) wins the Chicago mayoral race over Bernard E. Epton, becoming the city's first black mayor ... A Vietnam veteran persuades officials in Pitt County (Greenville, N.C.) to remove the designation "colored" from a monument listing those killed in the nation's wars. The monument includes both World Wars and the Korean War.



HAROLD WASHINGTON

10 years ago:

From 1998 editions of *The News Argus*: WSSU students receive "vendor cards" to purchase Xerox copies from copy machines, sold in \$5 and \$10 increments ... WSSU's football team plays Grambling State in The Gold Coast Classic in San Diego, Ca. Grambling wins 35-28 ... John Edwards wins election to become senator-elect, beating out Rep. Lauch Faircloth ... John Glenn is remembered as the first American to orbit the earth in a rocket ... In November, students and faculty prepare a march toward the voting polls for the primary elections ... An advertisement appears in *The News Argus* encouraging students to sign up for a guaranteed credit card.

Foster in charge

Ivan V. Foster, a senior human resources administrator and entrepreneur, with a broad business background spanning more than three decades, has been named interim assistant vice chancellor for human resources (HR) at Winston-Salem State, effective May 1, WSSU officials announced.

As interim assistant vice chancellor of WSSU's HR Department, Foster will be responsible for all WSSU personnel-related programs, including evaluation of functions and review of operations, staff recruitment support, classification, compensation, insurance, retirement plans and other benefits.

"We are fortunate to have someone with Mr. Foster's considerable experience joining our team," said WSSU Chancellor Donald J. Reaves. "Under his leadership, we will strive to enhance our human resources capacity, and to improve customer service throughout the university."

In his capacity as the interim head of HR, Foster will report to Dorcas L. Colvin, the executive vice chancellor for management and strategic initiatives.

As director of Human Resources and Professional Staffing for Cleveland Consulting Associates (CCA), a business strategy and logistics consulting firm serving Fortune 500 corporations in Mayfield, OH, from 1987 to 1991, Foster designed and implemented a comprehensive HR system for recruitment, selection and performance appraisal. CCA is a

subsidiary of Computer Sciences Corporation, a leading global consulting, systems integration and outsourcing company. Foster also served as employee relations and Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) manager at Technicare Corporation, a Johnson and Johnson company in Solon, OH, from 1980 to 1986. In that role Foster provided HR support that included recruitment to all divisions of a major producer of high tech medical equipment in a non-union environment.

From 1969 to 1980, Foster served the Fisher Body Euclid Plant of General Motors as HR staff and EEO coordinator. During his career there, Foster prepared affirmative action programs, led minority recruitment efforts, investigated discrimination complaints, drafted position statements for regulatory investigations, and administered General Motors' HR management system.

Foster, owner of Envirocycle Specialty Chemicals in Ohio, succeeds Ed Hanes, who had served as associate vice chancellor for Human Resources at WSSU since August 2006. Hanes will assume his previous role as WSSU's Equal Employment Opportunity officer.

Foster received his B.A. at Cleveland State University and his J.D. from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in Cleveland, OH. He has been a recognized Attorney at Law in the State of Ohio since 1976.