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THE NEWS ARGUS

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Jackson: HBCU students changed the world

Stephanie Douthit
NEWS EDITOR

As part of the installation of Chancellor Donald J. Reaves, Rev. Jesse Jackson, one of America's foremost political and civil rights leaders, highlighted the student forum on April 10 in K.R. Williams Auditorium. The Winston-Salem State University Student Government Association sponsored the event.

The topic, "The Role and Relevance of Historically Black Colleges Yesterday and Today," made a significant impact on the WSSU crowd.

Rev. Jackson and other distinguished panelists emphasized the impact HBCUs and its students have had on American society, as well as the influence it may have in the future.

"HBCU students are changing the world and these institutions have helped make the America of our dreams," Jackson said.

"Be true to your calling," he said. "HBCUs produce bridges of hope and possibility. HBCUs are cultural assets to higher education in America, and those who attend these institutions must fight back and not become 'statistics.'"

Jackson expressed that predominantly white institutions boast the admission statistics of black students, versus the graduation statistics of HBCUs.

"March Madness turns into May Sadness," Jackson said. According to Jackson, black students typically attend predominately white institutions because of sports or because of the "name." After all of the hype of the sports and other

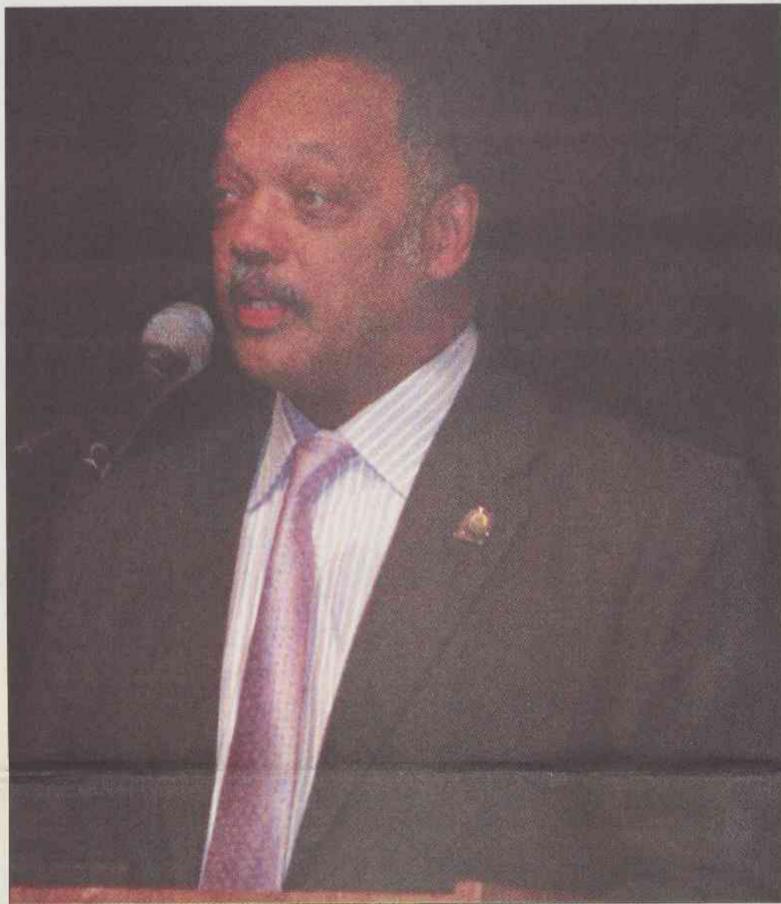


Photo by Grant Fulton

Jackson emphasized the importance of HBCUs in American society.

accolades, typically these students fail to graduate or they are not able to do quality work after graduation.

"Strong minds break strong chains," Jackson repeatedly told students. He told the audience HBCU institutions also provide individuals with a sense of work ethic, trustworthiness, honesty, scientific objectivity, and purpose that "wakes

you up in the morning." He emphasized continuously building the black universities and the community.

The advice Jackson gives to the black community, especially at HBCUs, is to register to vote, stop the killings, stop the self-destruction of drinking, smoking, degrading each other, and to have a passion for education.

Jackson's words seemed to resonate with the 1,100 people in attendance. Senior Jeanette Wallace said Jackson has always been someone she wanted to hear speak, and felt the speech was great.

"I loved the fact that he emphasized the black community," she said. "Uplifting one another instead of bringing ourselves down."

Reaves: There have been challenges, surprises

Larry Williams
STAFF REPORTER

On Friday April 11, Winston-Salem State University held the formal installation ceremony of Chancellor Donald Julian Reaves. The ceremony took place at the M.C. Benton Jr. Convention Center in downtown Winston-Salem.

A well-traveled man, Dr. Reaves has spent the majority of his adult life working at colleges and universities. He brings a vast amount of experience to the job as chancellor of WSSU.

Reaves was elected chancellor at WSSU in February 2007 by the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina System and started his duties as Chancellor on August 16, 2007. On Tuesday April 7, The News Argus discussed variety of topics with him. Here is a transcript of a portion of the interview:

Argus: You were elected over a year ago and assumed your duties on August 16, 2007. How has the transition progressed?

Reaves: The transition has been going pretty well so far. Things started slowly, but I've been trying to get the right people in place and filling jobs. There have been challenges just like any place.

Argus: What has impressed and/or surprised you about WSSU since you have been on the job?

Reaves: The quality of the campus facilities, especially the residence halls, really surprised me.

Argus: What are some of the aspects you've been focusing on since taking over as chancellor?

Reaves: Getting to know the students and faculty, but it's hard with the students because of the graduation turnover.

Argus: You've had careers as a C.F.O., vice president and executive vice president. How did those experiences help

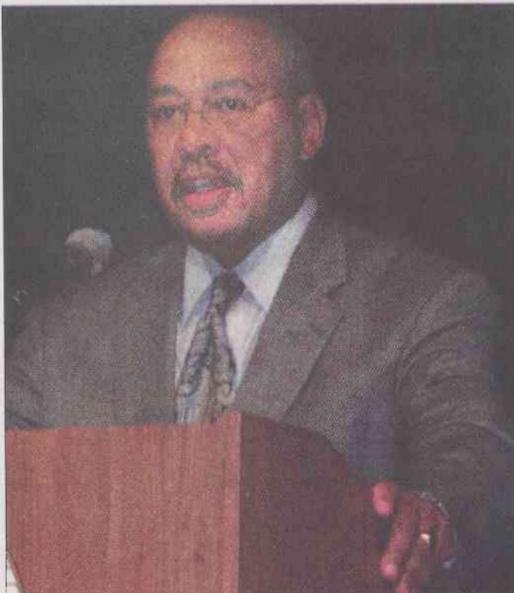


Photo by Grant Fulton

Reaves is the 12th chancellor of Winston-Salem State.

prepare for your current position?

Reaves: Those jobs provided me with an experience base. I like to call it "old wine in a new bottle." I tried to take something from all my past experiences even as a faculty member at Northeastern University.

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IN THE NEWS

Summer gas prices

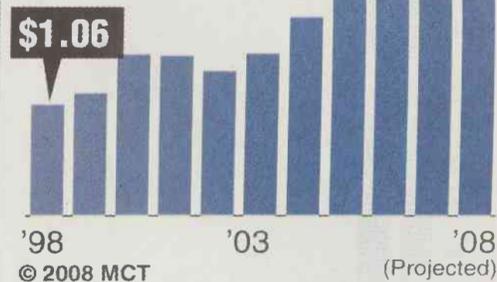
The government says U.S. drivers will pay about \$3.54 for a gallon of regular this summer.

Projections by region

East Coast	\$3.50
Gulf Coast	\$3.41
Midwest	\$3.50
Rocky Mountains	\$3.53
West Coast	\$3.78

Compared to past summers

Average price per gallon during summer driving season, April 1-Sept. 30



The News Argus Poll

Current Question at thenewsargus.com
Do You Find Open Campus Profanity Offensive?

Red-Yes
Orange-No
Blue-Not Sure

This The News Argus poll is not scientific and reflects the opinions of only those Internet users who have chosen to participate. The results cannot be assumed to represent the opinions of Internet users in general, nor the public as a whole.

