

NEWS & FEATURES

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'I can empower others ... to do better'

BY GRANT FULTON

NEWS EDITOR

Theodis Alexander Chunn, Mister WSSU for the 2008-2009 school year, will be formally introduced to the university community during homecoming festivities Oct. 22.

A mass communications major from Salisbury, Chunn won his title by defeating four opponents in this past spring's election.

"I didn't want to be the person just to sit back and say I want do that and do this. I followed a lot and now I am still following, but I feel like I can empower others to do better."

Chunn hopes to foster a sense of brotherhood on campus by empowering all males. He feels this is his most important task as Mister WSSU.

Additionally, Chunn is the head drum major for the marching band. He has been a drum major for three years. Because of his new duties with the royal court, he has to work with the band part time.

"I can't practice every day, and I can't perform in every game. I can sit in the crowd and watch the band perform. I love music, and it was a hard thing for me not to perform full time," he said.

Along with being in the band, Chunn is involved in several activities and organizations including Peer Education, Ram Ambassadors, Kappa Kappa Psi National Band Fraternity and the Mass Communications club.

Chunn said he decided to attend WSSU because the alumni from the Salisbury chapter "nurtured" him.

"They took me in as their child."

He said that the campus is family-oriented and are so close.



Photo courtesy of the Office of Marketing and Communications

Theodis Chunn Mister WSSU 2008-09

"When I was at open house, just the Ram Ambassador remembered my name and that made me want to come here," Chunn said.

"If I could change one thing about WSSU it would be the relationship that we have around this campus. As males we all need to come together and be more brotherly towards one another."

When he is not busy with his royal duties, Mister WSSU enjoys spending time with his girlfriend Brittani Parker, who Chunn says inspires him. Chunn said he hopes to attend graduate school, earn his doctorate and become the chancellor for WSSU.

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The guaranteed housing for freshmen was a first in the WSSU history.

Duke lives in the Wingate by Wyndham on South Main Street. She rides on the shuttle from the hotel to campus. The shuttle is provided by the city's Transit Authority and paid for by the University.

Duke said that it is important that the freshmen stay closer to campus to make a smoother transition to the college lifestyle.

"They [freshmen] need on-campus experience. That's just a part of coming in as a freshmen," Duke said.

She admits the University made the right decision.

Duke said that staying in the hotel hasn't been too much of a hassle because she's still able to participate in on-campus activities.

"In between my classes, I'm used to going back to my residence hall, lying down for a little bit, and getting back up for my classes," she said.

"But it [the reassignment] has helped me. I am in the library more."

However, she said she hopes the campus house shortage doesn't reoccur.

"They need to have a better way to know who will be attending the University, and if they have enough housing," she said. "If not, it's sad to say, but they're either going to have to start denying people or stop giving housing to locals [students from Forsyth County]."

According to Phillips, the administration plans to relocate the displaced students back on campus by next semester.

"The plan is to have no students in the hotels next semester," Phillips said.

He said students graduating or dropping out would open more spaces and get most if not all of the students back on campus. Phillips also mentioned students who live on campus have until Nov. 3 to opt out of on-campus housing for next semester.

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was stolen from her car parked in lot DD.

She said she not remember if she left her car door unlocked, but the door was unlocked when she returned to her car.

"There was no sign of break in," Holloway said.

Patricia Norris, Director and Chief of Police, sent an e-mail to the campus community Sept. 19 about the thefts.

In that e-mail she advised

people not to buy stolen decals.

The penalty for using a stolen parking permit will be criminal charges, the vehicle will be towed and impounded and campus parking privileges will be suspended for one year.

Junior Brittany Barnes thought the decals were stolen because of the high prices.

"I'm not really concerned

about my parking decal being stolen, but if it were I would expect it to be replaced with no charge," Barnes said.

Holloway paid \$10 to get a replacement decal and she had to park in another lot. There were no more spaces available in lot DD.

Lt. Patrick Ansel who works in crime prevention with the campus police has not returned phone calls to make a statement.

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