

The News Argus

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Winston-Salem State University



Photo by Garrett Garms

Chancellor Donald Reaves and wife Deborah Reaves help out at the construction site in the Happy Hill community.

WSSU helps to build a 'green' home in kind

STAFF REPORT

WSSU partnered with Habitat for Humanity of Forsyth County, Dell and GMAC Insurance to build a "green" eco-friendly house in the Happy Hill community near campus.

Dell and GMAC Insurance are providing financial support, while WSSU faculty, staff and students are providing the in kind support to construct the house.

"Winston-Salem State University's partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Forsyth County is just one more way to tangibly demonstrate our commitment to being a responsible and caring citizen, and to reinforce

our support of projects that promote sustainable growth and environmentally friendly initiatives," said Chancellor Donald Reaves said in a press release.

The proposed WSSU-Habitat for Humanity "green" Labor of Love house design is based on environmentally-conscious construction which encompasses: minimal impact on nature in lot preparation and design; resource, energy and water efficiency in building materials and appliances; and operational, maintenance and comfort qualities based on environmentally friendly standards for healthy indoor living.

Construction of the house began Aug. 27.

RAMalert: WSSU steps up its game to keep campus safe

By Jordan Howse
NEWS REPORTER

In response to the recent robberies during homecoming week, WSSU's public safety department has stepped up its efforts to keep the campus safe by heightening the RAMalert system.

RAMalert was implemented after the April 2007 Virginia Tech tragedy.

"The WSSU RAMalert is an internet-based communication tool," said Jonathan Martin executive assistant to the Chancellor.

"It is designed to keep students, administrators, faculty, staff and other key constituents informed in emergency situations."

When the campus experiences an emergency such as criminal activity, inclement weather conditions or environ-

mental hazards, students are sent automatic e-mail alerts.

Students can receive text message alerts if they sign up for RAMalert.

A cell phone number with text messaging capabilities must be provided. Standard text messaging fees apply.

According to the WSSU website, RAMalert also provides the capability to track and respond to questions from outside organizations such as the police, fire department, EMS, hospitals and the media.

Students were sent RAMalert e-mails but not text messages about the homecoming robberies.

Apryll Monroe, a junior, says she registered her phone number because she didn't

Alert

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SGA requests more funds

By ReDonah Anderson
NEWS REPORTER

The Student Government Association is asking for an increase and a separate operating budget that will reflect the growth in student enrollment for the 2009-10 academic year.

SGA, along with other student organizations, is funded through the student activity fee. The activity fee for the 2008-09 academic year is \$380 per student.

SGA now has \$100,000, the largest operating budget in the university's history.

SGA's budget can not

exceed \$100,000, no matter the enrollment size of the university.

On Oct. 31, SGA submitted a proposal asking Chancellor Donald Reaves for an increase in funds to about \$40 each academic year. The fee would be divided between the fall and spring semesters.

Quintin Jones, SGA Secretary of Commuter Affairs, said, "We are asking for enough money to cover the student homecoming concert-one of the biggest

Budget

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BRIEFLY STATED

Michigan State University to allow video for admissions. Students could find a new outlet to express their creative side through video personal statements for the application process at MSU. Jim Cotter, director of admissions at Michigan State, said the videos will play a supplemental role in deciding applicant status, which means students will still have to submit a written personal statement.
Source: UWIRE

Wisconsin college offers free bike for no-car promise. For the first time, Ripon College is providing a bike to any freshman who signs a pledge not to bring a car to school for the duration of the academic year. Last fall, when more students at Ripon College requested parking permits than were spots available, the administration decided to remedy the situation by implementing a bike sharing program.
Source: UWIRE

Campus tragedies prompt security improvements. Fatal shootings at universities from across the country have led to the discussion of efficient and effective emergency notification systems on campuses. Although the systems some universities have are working, many are looking to improve their existing methods because of the heavy traffic generated by mass text message alerts. Have you signed up for WSSU RAMalert?
Source: UWIRE

Always Watching

