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Tomikia LeGrande, assistant vice chancellor for enrollment management, has been instrumental in the University's overall plan to lower freshmen enrollment.

"The large class that enrolled in 2008 put a strain on the University's infrastructure," LeGrande said.

"The 2009 freshmen enrollment is in alignment with our infrastructure and our continued commitment to excellence in student retention and the student experience at WSSU.

"The number of students in the 2009 freshmen class is consistent with our enrollment objectives."

Inadequate housing was one of the obstacles as a result of the larger freshmen class in 2008.

Approximately one year ago, the University was forced to seek alternative housing for upper classmen

to be able to house all freshmen on campus.

This year housing has not been an issue.

Linda Gregg, administrative support associate in the Office of Housing & Residence Life, said she thinks the overall process ran much smoother this year.

"With lower freshmen numbers, we were able to accommodate all freshmen with housing," Gregg said.

A few changes were implemented this year along with the smaller freshmen class, including a new weeklong orientation called "Ramdition."

Ramdition was created for small classroom-style groups working with student leaders.

This semester, WSSU's goal was to admit students with high academic profiles.

"This is the highest-quality freshmen class, overall, ever enrolled at WSSU," LeGrande said.

"The Chancellor's strategic priority for retention and graduation requires an increase in the admission standards."

Michelle Releford, dean of University College worked with every area of the University to make the orientation a success.

"If you want to increase retention, you have to look at the academic side and the effective side of students," Releford said.

"If you do that, you have a better chance to move forward." The profile of the 2009 freshmen class will be released upon certification by UNC General Administration.

Edited by Marcus Cunningham

REVIEWS

Jay-Z [Sean Carter] returned Sept. 8 with the third installment of his Blueprint saga "The Blueprint 3: Roc Nation." Here is what two Argus editors had to say.

This is Jay-Z's 11th solo album. While Jay-Z manages to display his lyrical prowess, he falls well short of the expectations that many had.

"The Blueprint 3" is a solid effort; however, it is far from a classic.

Unlike many of Jay-Z's previous albums that feature a blend of thought provoking story-telling and mainstream pop songs, "The Blueprint 3" seems complacent with simply having mainstream and radio-friendly songs.

At times it seems as though Jay-Z relies heavily on rhyming ability to carry him through songs as opposed to delivering an actual message.

Although Kanye West and No I.D. produced more than half of the 15 tracks on the album the quality of production does not wane on the other end with the help of prominent producers such as The

Neptunes, Timbaland and Swizz Beats.

"The Blueprint 3" also features artists such as Young Jeezy, Drake, Kanye West, Rihanna, Alicia Keys and more.

Jay-Z experimented with a number of different styles on this album and in the process created an album that has a very contemporary sound; however, the end result is an album that is predictable but not boring.

Marcus Cunningham
Copy Desk Editor

The beats are the needle. Jay-Z's lyrics are the thread and that has remained consistent among his releases.

However, it is obvious that this is not an album that Jay-Z's main goal was to come out with a new creative sound or one that is that of a hungry artist trying to put a stamp in the world of hip-hop.

With majority of the production by Kanye West and a few beats by Timbaland and The Neptunes, Jay-Z enlists an all-star cast of artists featuring West, Alicia Keys, Rihanna, Young Jeezy and others.

Carter has managed to regain the spotlight and take over as the frontrunner to laying out a blueprint for a successful album, although not a classic like several of his others.

Carter is not in rare form on this album still displaying greatness, but as an artist he has reached the plateau of his lyrical greatness prior to this album. This is not a knock on Jay-Z; this is just saying that he has already excelled to the highest point of his rhyming ability.

He does however successfully take advantage of mentioning current events like Barack Obama, being courtside at NBA games, and indirect references of his marriage in his rhymes.

Jay-Z masterfully matches the correct lyrics to the correct beats.

LaTasha Miles
Sports Editor

WSSU remembers 9/11 with vigil

MARCUS CUNNINGHAM
COPY DESK CHIEF

CORDERIUS COWANS
REPORTER

On the eighth anniversary of the Winston-Salem State honored the 9/11 victims on the eighth anniversary by a vigil.

Campus Life Marketing Committee hosted the event with prayer and song to a crowd of approximately 60 people.

The program commenced with a brief moment of silence.

CLMC members placed 2,974 miniature American flags in the grounds adjacent the clock tower. Each flag represented an individual whose life was taken as a result of the tragedy.

"I'm proud to be a part of something like this," said Jessica Pharr, a freshman undecided major from Charlotte.

"I really admire CLMC for putting this together.

Alex Wiggins, a sophomore business administration major said he was actually living in New York several miles away from the [twin] towers when the attack happened. "Being able to see the event honored on my campus is a symbolic thing," he said.

The event will be an effort to be continued annually by CLMC.

"This will be a good way for us to pay homage to the victims and their families," said Whitney McCoy, WSSU student body president.

"September 11, 2001 is something that must not be forgotten, especially on the WSSU campus," said Chelii Broussard, the Campus Life Marketing and Promotions director.

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prised of presidents or chancellors of member colleges and universities.

The QEP is an essential part of the process that focuses on improving student learning.

We need your ideas and input. A former student suggested "Right to Write"; a faculty submitted "Rams Write."

Simply send your slogan describing the QEP Writing in the Major Project, along with a brief comment on its sig-

nificance, to mccarterm@wssu.edu by Oct. 7. Include your name, classification, email address, and telephone number. All submissions will be time-stamped in the event that two or more students submit the winning slogan.

The first winning submission will win. Enter today!

For more information contact Dr. Merdis McCarter, Senior Associate Provost and SACS Liaison, at mccarterm@wssu.edu.

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chief of Winston-Salem State University Police and Public Safety Department.

Dennis Sherrod, a professor in the Division of Nursing and Dr. Ludovic M. Kovalik, an assistant professor in the Department of English and Foreign Languages gave *The News Argus* permission to print their letters. See Page 3 in this issue.

Lt. Patrick Ansel, crime prevention officer with the WSSU Police and Public Safety Department, is in charge of parking on campus.

Ansel said he changed the faculty and staff procedure for purchasing decals because he wanted to make it fair for everyone.

"In previous years, if a faculty

wanted the same parking lot from year to year all they had to do was request the same lot," he said.

"This was becoming an issue for those faculty who were not given an opportunity to receive the lot they wanted," Ansel said.

Next year the process will be different for faculty and students.

Ansel said he is going to use T-2 eBusiness.

"Once we get T-2 eBusiness up and running everything will be done electronically. Buying a decal will still be on a first-come-first-serve basis, but having it online will eliminate everyone from having to stand in line for hours to purchase a decal," Ansel said.