

RAMble Online poll results

Should homosexuals be permitted to serve openly in the military?

Yes. A person's sexuality should not be a reflection of his/her patriotism

55%

Yes. The armed forces exist to protect not crush or freedoms

23%

No. It would hurt military morale and weaken our national defense

9%

No. I don't want to watch my back for the gays AND the enemies

6%

No. Gays might face too much discrimination that could risk their well being

7%

To participate in the poll, register online at thenewsargus.com

'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy

Navy Vet concerned about safety, not sexuality

President Barack Obama spoke to the nation in his first State of the Union Address Jan. 27. With so many events that have occurred in this country within the past 12 months, our newly appointed Commander-in-Chief had a lot of subject matter before him.

During his address, Obama spoke about the military's so-called "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. This practice was originally put in place during former President Bill Clinton's Administration in 1993 for the protection of homosexuals serving in the military and those wanting to serve.

"This year, I will work with Congress and our military to finally repeal the law that denies gay Americans the right to serve the country they love because of who they are," Obama said.

"It's the right thing to do."

This was followed by a statement made earlier, citing that "America must always stand on the side of freedom and human dignity...always."

As a U.S. Navy veteran who has served overseas in hostile waters, I couldn't agree with him [Obama] more.

One's sexual preference or orientation does not somehow degrade his or her quality of service, nor should it disqualify any citizen who has a desire to serve.

A sailor, soldier, whether enlisted or an officer, signs an agreement to serve and protect the country, even if it means putting one's life on the line.

The last thing that would ever come to my mind during the heat of battle is whether my shipmate is gay.

The President's message of change and empowerment has not wavered, and one of the topics that was mentioned was the strength through unity that our nation experienced during and after the Sept. 11 attacks.

"Throughout our history, no issue has united this country more than our security," Obama said.

This is a statement that all parties can agree on.

Nearly 10 years ago, our country suffered the worst terrorist attacks ever.

In the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks, a hand to hold and a shoulder to lean on were necessary for the healing and the unification of a country gripped with trauma.

And it was at that point that our differences, including a

person's sexual orientation, seemed trivial.

I was on active duty during those infamous attacks and some of the men and women that I served beside were tasked with rescue and assist work at Ground Zero. From the eyes of the people who benefitted from their presence, they saw not the sexual preference of the armed service member helping them, only the patriotism it took to stand in the shoes of a true hero.

I am proud of my President for taking a stand against ignorance and leading this country to once again "start anew, to carry the dream forward, and to strengthen our union once more."

Jaye Cole

Junior, Mass Communications

Op-Ed

New campus M.C. in the making?

When you think of the prefix M.C. [emcee] what is the first thought that comes to mind?

For those of you that keep up with pop culture or just old enough to remember, you would probably say M.C. Hammer.

But Mr. "U Can't Touch This" was only trying to let the world know that he is the Master of Ceremonies.

Whether rapping, flamboyantly dancing, or preaching, Hammer is able to speak to an audience.

Fall 2009 Winston-Salem State graduated their very own on-campus emcee, Ray "Mr. Breezeway" Johnson, who stumbled across this calling to become a host during his four years as an undergrad.

What does this mean for the future of an on-campus emcee at WSSU?

Recently, WSSU Campus Life Marketing Committee posted fliers and sent e-mails stating that they are looking for a new "Mr. Breezeway" or on-campus emcee.

Why do we need an on-campus emcee you might ask?

In my mind having an on-campus emcee provides a comfortable environment for students who wouldn't usually participate in on-campus activities unless there were a consistently relatable, diverse, and all around fun person such as myself to encourage them.

I know that I am able to boost the overall morale of the student body because I am a socialite.

Op-Ed

Being an emcee requires you to be very diverse and cultured in multiple areas. All of which I possess simply by being of Native American and African-American descent and raised in Colorado.

I am a product that WSSU needs, wants, and has recruited to become a "Pied Piper" of students by exciting and motivating them to get out of their rooms

and get involved with activities on campus.

My neighborhood had Asians, Pacific Islanders, "nerds," "punks," homosexuals, people with low self esteem, gang members, etc...

I am able to relate to them all, simply by not being afraid to venture "outside my box."

This has allowed me to host various assemblies in high school, television shows in college and be successful in stand-up comedy outside of school.

I would be a great marketing tool for recruiting out-of-state students from areas who may not know anything about WSSU.

So what is the future of the on-campus emcee?

Or should I say whom?

Brandon Wainright

Sophomore, Mass Communications

The News Argus Staff 2010

TIFFANY GIBSON *Editor In Chief*
MARCUS CUNNINGHAM *Copy Desk Chief*
LATASHA MILES *Sports Editor*
JAMES CHERRY *Chief Online Producer*
BRANDON WAINRIGHT *Photographer*
BRANDON COLEY *Graphics Artist*
BRITTANI PARKER *Feature Writer*
NATALIE DAVIS *Reporter*
JARRETT DAWKINS *Reporter*
JORDAN HOLLOWAY *Reporter*
JORDAN HOWSE *Reporter*
JAMIE HUNTER *Reporter*

LENA' KITHCART *Reporter*
BIANCA PENDER *Reporter*
STEPHANIE DOUTHIT *Technical Adviser and Advertising Sales & Marketing Manager*
DR. LONA D. COBB *Faculty Adviser*

The News Argus Office is in
Carolina Hall G005
601 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27110
Newsroom 336-750-2327
FAX 336-750-8704
Argus Advertising 336-750-8701
thenewsargus@yahoo.com
www.thenewsargus.com

The News Argus, the official student newspaper of Winston-Salem State University, is produced in conjunction with three journalism classes in the Department of Mass Communications. Any full-time WSSU student is eligible to join the staff. The News Argus is published on Tuesdays during the fall and spring semesters but not published during the summer semester, holidays and University breaks.

The News Argus an affiliate of Black College Wire; Collegenews.com; College Publisher.com; The-CampusBuzz.com; College Media Advisers; Black College Communication Association; CNBAM; N.C. Scholastic Media Association