

Ceremonies Held At WSSU

# Hazing Dying Out In Fraternities

By Donna Oldham  
Staff Writer



Joy Robinson and Joyce Cofield of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

The hazing of black fraternity and sorority pledges as a means to initiate them into a Greek organization according to representatives of the groups is becoming extinct and will soon be non-existent on college campuses.

Hazing, by definition, means to initiate or discipline fellow students by means of horseplay, practical jokes and tricks, and often in the nature of humiliating or painful ordeals. To inflict excessive work. To harass by abusive or ridiculous treatment or to oppress, punish, or harass by forcing to do hard work and unnecessary work.

The custom of hazing fraternal pledges began with the ancient Greeks but came to national attention 20 years ago, when black students on predominately white college campuses complained that they were being hanged in effigy by several fraternities and had been the subject of ridicule and "racial" games.

The severity of "serious" hazing climaxed in 1972, when a black college junior was killed while pledging Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., when a "grave" he was digging caved in suffocating him with dirt.

According to Manderline Scales, director of student activities at Winston-Salem State University, hazing is a violation of not only university policy but state law.

"Hazing will not be tolerated at Winston-Salem State," said Scales who cited instances where two Greek organizations had been suspended for violations.

"Kappa Alpha Psi was suspended and just came off suspension for hazing and Swing Phi Swing has been suspended for a combination of hazing and breaking the rules," she said.

Scales continued by saying that in the university's history, she believed that all fraternal organizations had put pledges through some sort of hazing, but that rules abolishing the tradition were stepped up and strictly enforced.

According to state law, "it will be unlawful for any student in any college or school in the state to engage in what is known as hazing, or to aid or abet any other student in the commission of this offense."

The state defines hazing as, "to annoy a student by playing abusive or ridiculous tricks upon him, to frighten, scold, beat or harrass him, or to subject him to personal indignity." Violation of the law constitutes a

misdeamnor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500, imprisonment by not more than six months, or both.

Upon conviction of any student of the offense of hazing, he shall, in addition to any punishment imposed by the court, be expelled from the college or school he is attending. The faculty or governing board of any college or institution charged with the duty of expulsion of students for proper cause shall, upon such conviction at once expel the offender. Failure to do so shall constitute a misdemeanor."

Scales said that besides acquainting organizations with

state law, she makes sure that the students are aware of the university's policies.

"There will be no paddling of students, of inflicting abusive or humiliating stunts which could cause harm to the pledges. Also, pledges will not be required to eat odd mixtures of food, or to be given any other items to be placed in or about the mouth," she said continuing, "the organization will have total responsibility for any injury sustained by a student in the performance of any tasks by a member or members of the organization in connection with pledging, pledge probation and initiation," she said.

Students active in several Greek organizations on the campus say that hazing is on its way out.

"In the past, there was a lot of hazing, but since the suspensions, everything has cooled out, said Ramona Pearson, a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. According to Pearson, "Zetas do not haze."

"We believe we can make good sisters without hazing them," she said.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity member Michael Sutton agreed. "We are always men of distinction. You will be pledged but we don't believe in hazing...we don't believe in deforming or hurting a person just to pledge them. Hazing has dropped off considerably," he said.

Ellis Baldwin of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity said, "we don't do any of that," about hazing.

"I can't see how hazing got into fraternities in the first place, but now it's become a tradition for some frats," said Baldwin.

He added that he believed in the "live and let live," adage.

"When I pledged they didn't do me like that, so why should I do it to the next guy. People tend only to know the negative aspects of pledging. They don't give you credit for the things you do to promote the welfare of the black community," he said.

Chris Barnes, of the newly reinstated Kappa Alpha Psi, said that while his fraternity was on suspension because of hazing, the group revised it's pledging rules.

"We revised the whole program and did away with the physical contact. There's more brotherhood now," Barnes said.

Kappa probate Hayes Washington agreed, "Kappas run a no hazing program."

Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Joy Robinson and Joyce Cofield, said that hazing is out for their sorority.

## Community Calendar

Friday, April 10

The weekly meeting of "Black Men Coping" will be held at the Human Relations office, 238 Trade Street at 12:30 p.m.

The Forsyth County Public Library is sponsoring a Children's Film Program at the East Winston Branch Library, 1110 E. Seventh Street. The program begins at 4 p.m. every Friday.

"Anytime, Anyplace, Anybook," April 29. Children should register at the library. Certificates will be given to those who complete the program. Call for more information 727-2202.

The East Winston Branch Library is holding reading sessions for ages 7-15 in reading, math and Math. Evenings 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

The YWCA's program for new parents entitled "Your Baby's First Year" originally scheduled to begin April 3 will now begin April 10 at 10:00 a.m. Call the YWCA at 722-5138 for more information.

Saturday, April 11

St. Matthews Apostolic Church will hold a dedication service to celebrate the ground breaking for their new building at Highway 311 at 12 noon. The public is invited.

The Central YMCA and the First Federal Savings and Loan of Winston-Salem has announced the second annual First Federal-Central YMCA Road Race to benefit the Winston-Salem Central YMCA.

The races, at 10,000 meters and 1 1/4 mile fun runs are scheduled at Hanes Park in Winston-Salem. The 10,000 meter run will start at 10:00 a.m. and the Fun Run at 9:30 a.m.

Participants will be grouped according to sex and age, with top division finishers winning merchandise gift certificates. All participants will receive T-shirts and a post-race picnic.

The race fee is \$4.00 until April 4, 1981 and \$5.00 after that date. Entries and payment should be sent to Central YMCA, 775 West End Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, 27101.

Sunday, April 12

The Winston-Salem Triad Lupus Chapter will meet at 2:30 p.m. at Highland Presbyterian Church Activity Building.

The program will be a presentation of Dr. Sanford Hartman's lecture, "Lupus and Other Connective Tissue Diseases." Dr. Hartman, rheumatologist, is Chief Medical Consultant to the Atlanta Chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America.

Also, Mr. John Essen, Raleigh, State Coordinator of the North Carolina Lupus Foundation, Inc., will have a question and answer period concerning the NCLF, and its role in Lupus Education and Research. For further information, call 724-6303 or 768-1493.

Monday, April 13

County Commissioner's regular meeting at 8:30 p.m. in the Commissioner's Board Room, Hall of Justice.

Tuesday, April 14

The Mental Health Association in Forsyth County will hold its regular meeting in the Highland Presbyterian Church at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited.

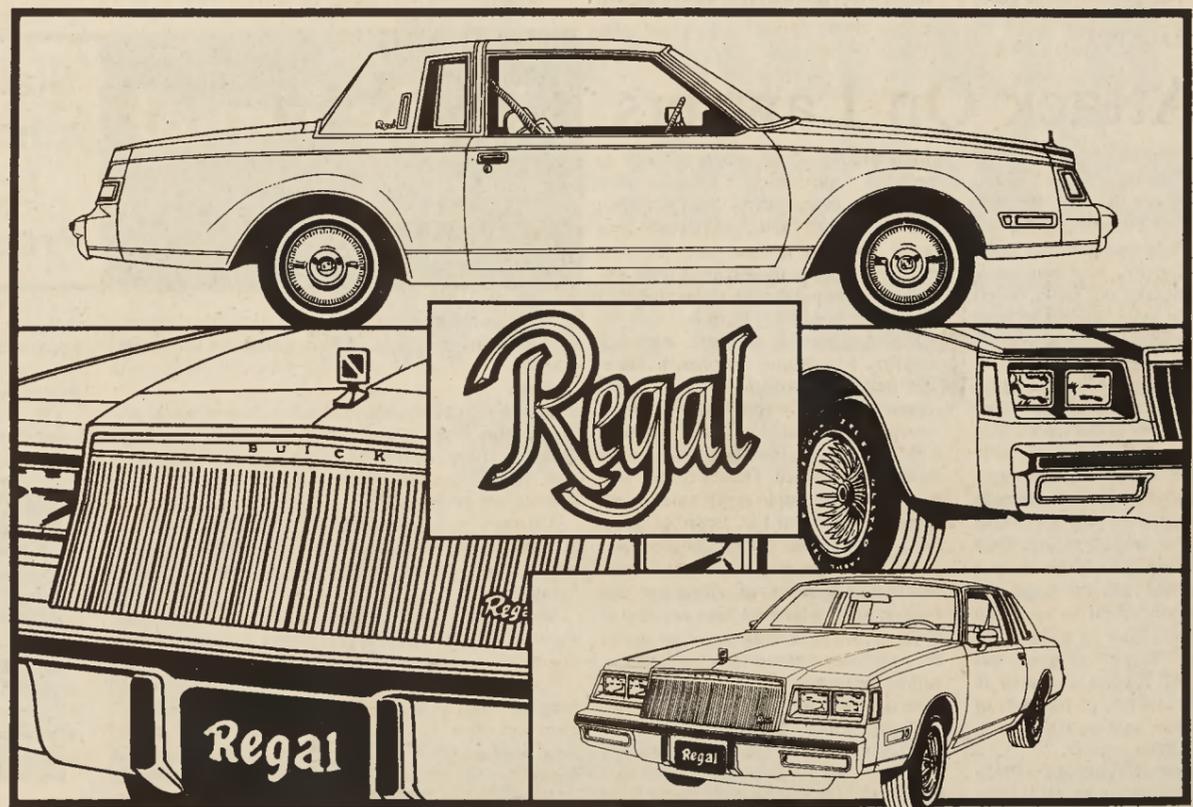
Wednesday, April 15

Al Wood, Mike Pepper and Pete Budko, members of the University of North Carolina ACC Championship basketball team, will highlight the list of Atlantic Coast Conference members to participate in the third annual YMCA-ACC All-Star Classic at 8:00 p.m., in Memorial Coliseum in Winston-Salem.

Billy Packer and Al McGuire, NBC color commentators will coach the All-Star teams. The events will provide a portion of the proceeds from the game for the YMCA Youth Scholarship Fund.

Ticket information is available by calling the Central YMCA at (919) 722-1163 and are on sale at Forsyth County YMCA program centers.

## 1981 Buick Regal...a King of the Road



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