



Happy Feet!

Thousands of people in six cities across the Piedmont, including Winston-Salem, participated last weekend in the annual Teamwalk Piedmont fundraiser for the March of Dimes. Although no official figures are ready, Teamwalk organizers estimate as much as a half million dollars may have been raised.

There's a special something about 'Mother'

Days like this Sunday, when we all stop to celebrate Mother's Day, do more than just help us to pause and pay tribute to our moms. They also help us to focus on the differences that help make us who we are.

broken English, "save the life of my child. I want my child to live and to have it more abundantly.

My mind flashed back to the mother of Moses, who when she determined that her baby was in mortal danger, moved with great

No coke, no coffee or tea. She talked to him as if he were already among us. She made sure that everything was ready for him (including me) so that when he finally did arrive, this child would feel as though he was the greatest thing in the world. My wife was the first to see him and after he was finally born, (21 hours and a C-Section later) I remember how I cried as I watched her resting, sleeping, having brought life into this world. She was now a mother. This woman was now a mother. But truthfully, she had already been a mother. The mystery.

answered and her boy made it back home safely. But it told me again about the mystery of motherhood.

This Mother's day, there are a lot of women — mothers — who are experiencing something that many of us will never understand. Their children, boys and girls, went overseas and as mothers they didn't know whether they would ever see them alive again.

For many mothers, this Sunday will have a special meaning. For those who have lost their children, it too will have a special meaning.

It is no wonder that little boys and girls will fight you if you talk about their mothers.

ON THE AVANT-GARDE

By TANG NIVRI

There is something about being a mother that only god can explain. As a man — now even as a father of three — I will never fully understand the mystery of motherhood. It is as if God has hidden within her a special dispensation sufficient to render her role supreme above all else. But being a mother is more than just giving birth or being a good parent. There is something else to this mystery.

I was reminded of this when I read of those desperate women in Northern Iraq who were attempting to give their children away to foreigners — American citizens — people whom they didn't even know.

They were literally offering them all of their money, all their earthly belongings, hoping and praying that these foreigners would take their children to safety — perhaps to America and thus spare them from what they perceived to be certain death, at the hands of Saddam Hussein, or face the slow death of starvation somewhere out there in the vast Iraqi wilderness.

Never mind about their own lives; these women were pleading to anyone who would listen in their

dispatch, using all that God had given her to protect her baby from those who would seek to do him harm. We move closer to the mystery.

Mothers are the ones who bring each of us into this world. We all traveled into this life's reality by way of their wombs and thus we are all the same in that at one time we were totally dependent upon them for our very survival.

We lived only at their mercy and their good judgment. They held our lives in their own hands. But not only that, they held us in their wombs when we were as close to God as perhaps we will ever be in this life. Can you imagine that? They walked us around while we were yet in another world still listening to our creator as he gave us the instructions for life — "a map of the stars and instructions for how to build a nest." The mystery unfolds.

I remember so very well how my wife went to such extremes being so very careful while pregnant with our first-born son. She would not eat or drink anything that could possibly damage his little organs.

She simply would not do it.

I met a woman last week who has raised her three boys all by herself. Although they are fairly grown-up now, she still likes to call them her babies. This single parent, mother of three, a pastor in the Presbyterian Church, is also completing a terminal degree at Duke University, while she puts at least one of them through college.

Over the years she no doubt faced many a challenge, getting the kids into school and out; one can only imagine of many lonely struggles.

But probably none like the one where she discovered that one of her boys who had joined the army and Lord god, "now he would be shipped to the Persian Gulf." As she told me about her fear, her sense of total helplessness, that here it was her child was going to war and that she could do nothing about it; it was almost as if she might break down again just telling me about it (and me too).

This was a mother who had raised her children without the benefit of a father, but now she could do nothing but pray to god the Father Almighty. Somebody say Amen. Well, her prayers were

WFU releases a study on race relations

WINSTON-SALEM (AP)— A special study commission looking at race relations at Wake Forest University has released a report acknowledging some problems while making a host of recommendations for improvement. The 14-page report, written by a multiracial group of students, faculty and administrators, comes after several racial incidents this spring led to the perception of increased tensions on campus.

"Clearly, all is not harmonious on the Wake Forest campus in regard to race relations," wrote the commission, which began its research in October.

Wake Forest is not alone in experiencing such tensions, the report states. The National Institute Against Prejudice and Violence reported that in 1989-90, 113 colleges nationwide cited incidents of racism ranging from name calling to physical abuse.

The report notes six such incidents at Wake Forest since 1989, including racial slurs hurled at a black scholarship interviewee and her mother by a drunken white student, and complaints that Wake Forest is lowering academic standards to increase minority enrollment.

Among the recommendations offered by the commission was to draft an institutional mission statement pledging that Wake Forest will not tolerate any racist, sexist, or discriminatory acts.

The commission also said black and white students should be encouraged to participate in programs together, while promoting cultural diversity through a proposed American Studies major.

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NOW speaks on AIDS

The May Program of the Winston-Salem Chapter of the National Organization for Women will focus on AIDS and women. Our state is 17th nationally in HIV infection, but 49th in spending: 11 cents per capita, including treatment, prevention and education.

Terri Moore, Director of the AIDS Task Force of Winston-Salem, will speak on how AIDS is affecting women and what each woman can do to protect herself and the people she loves. The discussion will include legislative and political issues surrounding AIDS and how psychological and economic dependency increase women and children's vulnerability to AIDS. The program will be held Monday, May 13 at 7 p.m. at the Glade Street YWCA. It is free and open to the public. Signing for the hearing impaired will be provided.

For more information, call Martha Wilson at (919) 727-0915.

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**Your Next Job:
BASED ON MERIT OR QUOTAS?**

Your representative, Steve Neal, will soon be asked to vote on H.R. 1, the so-called "Civil Rights Act of 1991." Cleverly written by special interest groups, enactment of this bill will mean Main Street Business will be forced to hire by quotas, not the individual job applicants skill, experience or merit.

Attorneys will benefit because it creates a "lawyer's bonanza"—an incentive to sue for "big money" awards. This "Trial Lawyers Full Employment and Relief Act" is a radical departure from all prior civil rights law. But the special interests think they can push H.R. 1 through the United States Congress anyway!

North Carolina's economic development depends on your voice being heard in Washington, DC. If H.R. 1 becomes law, vital funds which could be used to create jobs in North Carolina and give the economy a boost would now go to pay expensive trial lawyer's fees.

North Carolina's workers need your help. They deserve to be hired and promoted based on their ability, not based on quotas. If you agree, please urge Rep. Neal to oppose H.R. 1.

Rep. Steve Neal
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2071 • Fax: (202) 225-4060

**WE NEED EQUAL OPPORTUNITY,
NOT SPECIAL PREFERENCES**

A copy of H.R. 1 and an analysis of its effect on civil rights law are available upon request. Paid for by the Fair Employment Coalition, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 1500 - North Lobby, Washington, DC 20004-1703