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SPORTS WEEK

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UNC's Barksdale setting more records



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THE CHRONICLE

The Choice for African American News

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Making a Splash

Winston Lake Family Y to teach minority kids joy of swimming

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Summer's months away, but officials at the Winston Lake Family YMCA already have pool safety on their minds.

Officials were notified recently that the Y received a \$25,000 grant from the Winston-Salem Foundation to launch several swimming programs for underprivileged youngsters between the ages of 7 and 17.

The grant will allow about 250 kids to enroll in the program. The Y is already recruiting its first class of youngsters. The housing authority and recreation center

directors have been contacted about the program and are expected to recommend young people for the program.

The grant will cover the cost of the program for the youngsters as well as swimming gear and uniforms. The grant will also cover salaries for two instructors. The Y will provide transportation for the participants.

Maurice Horsey, executive vice president of the YMCA of Greater Winston-Salem, said the Y applied for the grant for several reasons.

First, the organization wanted to do something to address the city's lifeguard shortage. Local Y

branches and city pools have had a rough time finding teens to man pools.

The Y also hopes the program will help bring new blood to its award-winning swim team. But, most important, Horsey said, the Y wants to teach water survival skills to a segment of the population that is more likely to be found on a basketball court or a soccer field than in a swimming pool.

Last summer four of the five children who drowned in Forsyth County were Hispanic. The Y will make a special push to recruit Hispanics for the program.

"The drownings last year show

See Winston Lake on A4



Maurice Horsey, from left, Page Gregson and Thornton Eaton stand in front of the newly-refurbished pool at the Winston Lake Family YMCA. The pool will soon be used to train more than 200 children.

HAWS moves step closer to fixing heating problems

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

The Housing Authority of Winston-Salem Board of Commissioners will not wait to receive a state-issued engineering seal for the work that needs to be done to fix heating problems in hundreds of town houses in three public housing communities.

The commissioners voted to table a resolution Tuesday that would have selected a contractor to make the improvements. J. Reid Lawrence, the executive director of HAWS, said he hopes work can begin within five to 10 days after HAWS receives the seal. Lawrence said obtaining the seal was suggested by city officials to ensure the quality of the work that's to be done.

Residents began to complain that newly installed heating units did not properly heat apartments. HAWS maintenance officials discovered that the units were installed without "dampers," a device that helps to distribute heat evenly throughout a structure.

HAWS has purchased oil-burning radiator heaters for residents to use until the heating problem can be fixed. A maintenance supervisor claimed at the meeting that HAWS had purchased virtually all such heaters in the Triad and that officials had to go to Raleigh to purchase additional heaters.

The chair of board voiced frustration at the media during the meeting. HAWS has not been given credit for acting quickly to

See HAWS on A10

Adoptive parents, kids to tell their stories

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

The Forsyth County Department of Social Services is developing a new weapon to help it in its yearly battle to shrink adoption waiting lists.

The agency has hired a company that specializes in adoption marketing to develop an ad campaign featuring a few of the hundreds of local children that wait to be adopted each year.

Campaign for Kids, an Asheville-based marketing company, will develop posters, newspaper ads, church bulletins, brochures and a short video aimed at getting more adults interested in adopting.

"We have given a voice to some of the kids that have gone through the system," said Diane Delafield, a soon-to-be adoptive mother who owns a marketing agency.

Delafield spent much of last Saturday interviewing children for literature that will be used in the ad campaign. Children were also photographed.

The idea, Delafield said, is to let those who know what the system is like, share their experiences with others. Adoptive parents and children who have already been



Local adopted children look at animals on the campus of The Children's Home. They will take part in a local adoption advertising campaign.

adopted will also be featured in promotions.

Delafield has done similar campaigns in counties throughout the state. The results have been positive, she said. In the last county, an advertising blitz resulted in a noticeable increase in adoption activity.

Dawn Perdue, program coordinator for DSS's Families for Kids, said the ad campaign, which

should be up and running in a few months, is the first of its kind in Forsyth County.

DSS has more than 300 in its custody at any given time, said Perdue, who is an adoptive mother herself. She hopes the campaign will give families more information on adoption.

"We are hoping to reach families who may have been considered

See Adoption on A9

Supporters: Blacks will prosper under Easley

BY ANGELA BURRUS
THE TRIANGLE TRIBUNE

RALEIGH - As Gov. Mike Easley sets up a stronger and more inclusive government in North Carolina, some are certain blacks will have more than a level playing field.

With President-elect George Bush's reign approaching and several talks of a possible recession in the midst, many black citizens are concerned about their place in the political arena.

When asked how would blacks specifically benefit from his leadership, Easley evaded the question, other than recognizing existing disparities in the state that he defines as "two North Carolinas."

"We can no longer afford to have two North Carolinas," he said. "We need one where all our citizens prosper."

But members of his transitional team said his sensitivity for black citizens goes without saying, as he has recently appointed blacks to key positions, including Reuben Young as deputy legal counsel, Sondra Davis as director of boards and commissions, and former state senator Rev. C.R. Edwards as senior adviser to the governor.

"I feel comfortable that blacks will benefit from his administration," Edwards said. "Some of the problems we face like economics and education will receive the kind of influence and input that would make for a healthy North Carolina."

"The limited financial resources that are predicted. African Americans may not receive their due share but they'll receive a good share of it."

Transitional team member Gwen Swimpson said Easley's support for black prosperity is also apparent in the issues that he is pushing during his term.

Easley stressed pushing an agenda that includes reducing class sizes, particularly in grades kindergarten through third grade, as well as promoting an economic plan that will give all citizens prosperity.

"For the first time in years, we are facing a serious budget shortfall," he said. "Estimates of the shortfall are as high as \$400 million."

"Rural economic development is a serious challenge. We must bring companies to North Carolina that will bring high paying jobs. We cannot do that successfully if we do not have a properly trained work force. That leads to the challenge we are facing in education."

"One of the biggest problems is the 'two North Carolinas,'" Swimpson added. "And that is where you have the poor, rural



Easley

See Easley on A2

Marshall Bass establishes \$50,000 endowment

BY PAUL COLLINS
THE CHRONICLE

Philanthropist Marshall Bass has established a \$50,000 endowment for grants to help pay tuition at Best Choice Center, after a decision by the center's board of directors to increase tuition.

Bass is on the board of directors at Best Choice Center, a well respected, nonprofit after-school and summer program for students 5 to 15 years old. Children in the program get individualized help with their school work and study math and reading concepts at advanced grade levels.

Bass said, "Recently we had to raise the tuition from \$25 to \$50 per month. Best Choice Center is primarily oriented toward families needing care for their children as well as prevention of drug intake. In light of the fact we had to raise our tuition, I had to establish

about a \$50,000 Best Choice Center Endowment at the Winston-Salem Foundation.

"Those funds will be used for grants for payment of tuition specifically limited to families with two or more children. The reason that I limited it to families with two or more children is the cost may be a little more prohibitive to those families than an individual family having one child."

"The fund is going to pay 50 percent of the tuition for (a) one-year period...The staff at the center will make recommendations as to who will receive these grants to the personnel committee of the board of directors. The personnel committee will act accordingly on these recommendations."

"This year, 2001, my best judgment is that ... we're going to give from eight to 10 scholarship grants or tuition grants to those families

selected by the personnel committee."

Bass is and has been involved in many philanthropic and civic activities.

For example, he said, "I am chairman of the Marshall B. Bass Children's Fund. This is a fund which was established in 1997 with a purpose of providing training in organizational management for the staff and board of organizations that serve children. We have a board of 17 key people in Forsyth County who make decisions as to who will receive grants from the fund."

"The organizations that have received it thus far are the YWCA, Best Choice Center and children's program at the Department of Social Services. We make at least one grant each year. That's one objective of the fund. The second objective is that board members

participate and recruit a cadre of experts in our community to strengthen the organizational management of children's organizations...The third and final objective is to establish seminars in various management disciplines and invite persons in executive and board capacity from organizations that serve children. We're in the process of putting together a seminar for the year 2001 in which we will invite 20-25 organizations, board members and key staff members based on the needs in those organizations."

In the area of education, Bass has established several educational programs at colleges and universities, most notably at Winston-Salem State University. "We have a program there to provide scholarships at Winston-Salem State for life science, business and psychology."

See Bass on A9



Marshall Bass stands with then-BCC director Dorothy Graham-Wheeler outside of the nationally-acclaimed Best Choice Center. Bass has been a longtime supporter of the center.