

SPORTS WEEK

Mustangs, Jackets square off

Patchwork Rams keep winning



See B1



See A4



See C1

COMMUNITY

CultureFest held in the Southside

Tips on coping with end-of-life matters

75 cents

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THE IRONICLE

The Choice for African-American News

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2001

What you are saying

Since the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, a lot of talk has centered around a possible war, pitting the U.S. against covert enemies in many places, mainly Afghanistan. We asked local people to give their thoughts about a possible war. Here is what some of them had to say.

Jim Andrews



"I just think we don't have a choice. With terrorists attacking our homeland we have to defend our national rights. We've found out that freedom is not free. As Americans, we have to stand and fight. I support the president, Congress, the senators and all the people who died on the planes and in the buildings."

Steve Davis

"I think it's a good idea. A lot of it is long overdue. I think George Bush has surrounded himself with good people, and my only hope is that he goes after the right people and the people of Afghanistan don't get hurt. I do have an 18-year-old son, and that's something that's preying on my mind. The terrorists have a way of thinking that I don't understand."



Laronda Mosley



"I feel like we should go to war because this man has come over here a killed all of these innocent people. If he had a problem with our president or our government, he should have taken it out on them, not on innocent people who had nothing to do with it."

Robert Mortis

"I don't know. Something should be done, but I don't know if war is going to solve it. This is not the type of war where you know the enemy. This is a needle in the haystack type of thing when it comes to finding (Osama) bin Laden."



Renee White



"I think we should try to make peace while standing behind our government 100 percent. I think we should all be praying because ... leaving it in God's hand will help the situation."

Nathan Burton

"I think we should make an attack. But we need to make sure the war is not against Afghanistan and the people of Afghanistan. We have to be careful not to kill innocent civilians."



Business as usual for local Arabs

Around the country some Muslim and Arab-owned businesses have suffered as a result of Sept. 11 attacks



Azzat Amer arranges items at AZ Patterson Grocery.

BY T. KEVIN WALKER THE CHRONICLE

Soon after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, signs were placed in the windows of Bon Appetit Cafe and Deli, the eatery that serves everything from pizza to burgers to downtown's work force. The signs, which were placed in every window of the restaurant, condemned the attacks and told customers that a large portion of the restaurant's proceeds would go toward relief efforts.

Dal Othman, a Muslim Arab American who opened Bon Appetit five years ago,

insists that he was not compelled to put the signs up because of his religion or ethnicity. Instead, he said, he put up the signs because he, like many in this country, merely wants to extend a helping hand.

"I'm American," he said last week from his restaurant as the hectic lunch hour was winding down. "Whatever harms this country, harms me."

Othman, who often takes orders from behind the register, said he has received no negative feedback from customers since the Sept. 11 attacks, which were allegedly perpetrated

by Arab Muslims. But outside of work, away from the often well-educated clients he serves, Othman says he and his family have noticed a definite change.

"We do recognize some people look at us. We feel people are pointing at us, either with a look or a finger," he said.

At Bon Appetit, Othman says customers have shown him even more kindness since the attacks.

"I receive a lot of support from (customers). They ask me to be cautious when I am out," he said.

Caution seems to be a

See Businesses on A10

Drumming Up Interest

Some students at Carver High School found African drums in front of them last week instead of books.

The school invited Bill Scheidt, a local African drumming instructor, to give more than 70 10th-grade students at the school a crash course in African drumming.

It's a relevant topic for the students these days. Many are reading a novel by a West African author. Teachers thought the drumming instruction would bring the continent of Africa a little closer to the student.

Scheidt, a Wake Forest University graduate who lived in Africa for a year, brought a drum for each student and then showed them how to maneuver the instruments to create a wide range of sounds.

During much of the day last Thursday, Scheidt led several classes of Carver students in a drumming circle. In addition to Carver, Scheidt has led similar workshops at schools throughout Forsyth County.



Bill Scheidt leads a drumming circle at Carver High School.

Board spars about race

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Applicants to city commissions, boards and committees will be able to decide whether or not they want to list their race on applications. The decision was reached after the topic sparked a partisan battle at Monday's Board of Aldermen meeting.

The longest debate of the night came as aldermen weighed the pros and cons of asking applicants for city commissions and committees their race on applications.

The city has several volunteer, nonpolicy-making boards on which everyday residents sit. They include everything



Burke

See Aldermen on A3

Sturdivant departs to train for Secret Service

Winston-Salem State University graduate is fulfilling lifelong dream

BY FELECIA P. MCMILLAN COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

On the outside, he appears as a man of small stature, but inside, he is undoubtedly a giant. William L. Sturdivant is 25 years old. He is 5 feet 7 inches tall and weighs 140 pounds. For the past year, he has undergone many tests to determine whether he is up to snuff for the training and the assignment as a uniformed officer in the U.S. Secret Service.

He left on Saturday, Sept. 29, headed for Maryland, where he began six months of intensive training on Monday, Oct. 1, from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. He joins a class of 24 candidates who seek this employment opportunity. Only 50 percent of the class is expected to complete the training. Sturdivant has the faith that he will prevail and accept his assignment in Washington, D.C.

His original plan was to work in the field of forensic science. For this reason, he

acquired a biology degree with a minor in chemistry from Winston-Salem State University in 1999.

"Law enforcement is a field I have always been fascinated with. I wanted to work with law enforcement to figure out how people died at the crime scene," Sturdivant said. "I wanted to explain the crime scene, to figure out what happened."

In order to get to this point in the process, Sturdivant has already passed a three-hour written test, on which he scored 93 out of 100 points, the highest in his class. He has received a clean bill of health based on a three-hour physical exam at Moses Cone Hospital in Greensboro. Based on his vision screening, his vision uncorrected had to be 20/60 in each eye, correctable to 20/20 in each eye. In addition, he completed a three-hour panel interview, during which he was grilled about his own life and career



Sturdivant stands in front of a city recreation center. He's volunteered for parks and recreation department since an early age.

See Sturdivant on A9