

"R" WORD UNDER ATTACK

Paul, others joins movement to abolish 'slur'

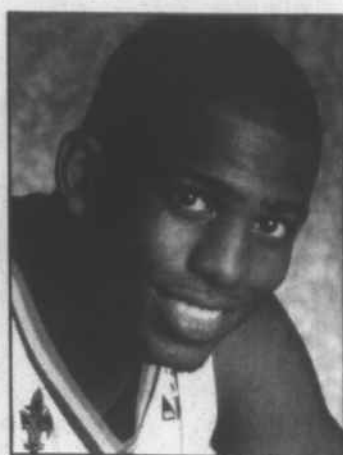
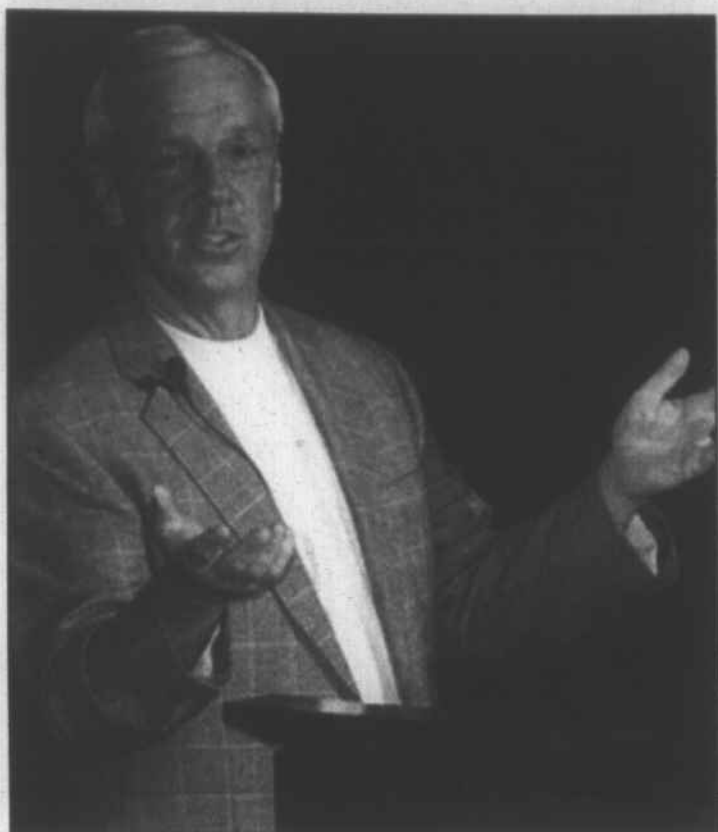
SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Special Olympics is spearheading a campaign to eliminate the social slur "retard" from Americans' vocabularies resulting in better acceptance of people with intellectual disabilities.

NBA Star Chris Paul, a former Wake Forest University All-American basketball player and Winston-Salem native, is endorsing the Special Olympics R-word campaign, according to Keith L. Fishburne, Special Olympics North Carolina president/CEO.

With the support of local, regional and national celebrities, Special Olympics is trying to change the social landscape and rid what is a negative and hurtful term to both people with intellectual disabilities. R-word posters, fliers, public service announcements and more will help educate and influence American youth and adults to stop using the word.

The R-word campaign is a sub-set of the Special



Chris Paul

just those with a family member or friend involved.

Other notable R-word campaign endorsees from North Carolina include: Cam Ward, NHL-Carolina Hurricanes; Sean May, NBA-Charlotte Bobcats; Roy Williams, University of North Carolina Men's Basketball Coach; Larry McReynolds, NASCAR broadcaster; Bobby Lutz, University of Charlotte Men's Basketball Coach and Bob Harris, Voice of the Duke Blue Devils.

UNC Coach Roy Williams has signed on.

Olympics new "Be a Fan" public education campaign that aims to connect all people with Special Olympics, not

Research

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or programs work effectively for people of all backgrounds and, if not, why they don't. Researchers also want to know why some diseases and traits occur more frequently among some groups than among others. As discussed in our recent genetics article, for instance, prostate cancer occurs more frequently among African American men than among white men. Research is currently underway to understand this disease process, and this research could lead to better treatments as well. For these reasons and more, minority health research is crucial in the fight to eliminate health disparities.

How do I participate in a research study?

You can ask your doctor if they know of any current studies that you might qualify for, or you might be asked by your doctor if you would like to

participate in a study. Many studies also advertise what their criteria are for participation to the public, via television, newspapers and radio, and provide contact information if you are interested in participating.

If you are approached and asked to participate in a research study, there are many very important issues to consider. One of the most important is to understand that your participation in research is completely voluntary. Many people want to participate in research because they understand that the research is very important in helping future generations.

When you are asked to participate in a research study, your involvement and the risks associated with participating in the study must be explained to you and agreed to. You must either verbally agree to participate or, in most cases, you will be asked to sign an informed consent form, which includes informa-

tion regarding: The purpose of the study; How many people will be participating in the study; Your involvement in the study (how long you will be in the study and what you will be asked to do); The risks, benefits and costs associated with your participation; The agency funding the study; Payment (if any) for participating in the study; Your rights as a research participant; and Who to call if you have questions or problem.

The consent form will be approved by the IRB of the researcher conducting the study. You will be asked to sign two copies, one of which you will keep. If you have any questions or concerns about your participation in the study, the best time (but certainly not the only time) is when you are going through the informed consent form with the researchers.

Again, your participation in a research study is completely voluntary, and will not negatively affect your ability to

access health care. Medical research has played a very important role in our history in combating the burdens associated with a variety of health conditions. While we can't change the history of unethical treatment of vulnerable people in research, we can learn from those terrible mistakes and move forward in eliminating health disparities.

Contribution By: Ronny Bell, PhD, MS, Director, Maya Angelou Research Center on Minority Health

For further information on this topic, resources, questions or comments, call toll-free 1-877-530-1824. Or, for more information about the Maya Angelou Research Center on Minority Health, please visit www.wfubmc.edu/minorityhealth.

Wal-Mart

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represent approximately 40 percent of all filled prescriptions at Wal-Mart," he said. "Nearly 30 percent of \$4 prescriptions are filled without insurance - significantly higher than the 10 percent

industry trend. But more importantly, this program has meant that people can now take the drugs that were prescribed to them. They no longer need to cut pills in half or not take the drugs at all."

Wal-Mart, Sam's Club and Neighborhood Market customers in Texas, Florida, North Carolina, Georgia and

Missouri top the savings list respectively, each with more than \$40 million in prescription drug savings.

Wal-Mart's \$4 prescription program covers most commonly treated medical conditions and continues to drive down health care costs for families.

Council

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Project (ASOP) educates American opera singers about what it takes to have a career in opera. Last year, it moved to North Carolina from New York and it is now located on the campus of Salem College. Its 2008 workshop will be held May 31-June 14 and will include a fully staged opera, "Le Nozze di Figaro."

"The arts community in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County is robust and grow-

ing. That is great news for this community. These two groups are doing unique work,

and we are delighted that Arts Council grant programs are now an additional resource for them," said Milton Rhodes, Arts Council presi-



Rhodes

dent and CEO.

As Arts Council members, the agencies are eligible to apply for Organizational Support, Arts-In-Education and Project Assistance grants. In 2007, The Arts Council made more than \$1.6 million in grants to 45 arts organizations and individuals. Membership also brings with it benefits such as standing to apply for Arts Council grants and participation in meetings, training programs and special events hosted by The Arts Council.

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2250 Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem | 336.758.5150

reynoldahouse.org



Organized by the American Folk Art Museum, New York, and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. The exhibition was made possible by the MatLife Foundation.

KING OF AFRICA, 1909. Therman Dial Jr. (c. 1903). Brooklyn, Ala. - Carpet and frame on incised wood, 48 x 72". (collection American Folk Art Museum, New York; Museum purchase made possible with grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Metropolitan Life Foundation, 1993-2; photo by Brad Worley)

Reynolda House is supported by the Arts Council of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County.

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*Restrictions Apply