

Shawan Gabriel poses with members of his Leadership Team, including Program and Membership Director Jolyn Roberts (at Gabriel's left); Mentoring ServicesDirector Daisy Rodriguez (at his right) and Teen Program Director Spencer McCall, standing, far left.

Gabriel

from page Al

facility to learn more about the vision behind the Y's inception. The Y's history is community steeped in involvement, Gabriel learned. Its a fervor he hopes to recapture.

"The branch is headed in a direction ... where, I think, it was intended to be when it first opened," he said. "We're going to continue in that rich tradition.'

Gabriel is the first executive director of Winston Lake to preside over both the Y itself and Community Outreach Services (COS), which is now formally housed at Winston Lake. Also a YMCA of Northwest North Carolina agency, COS operates adult literacy, famimentoring and afterschool assistance programs.

The addition to COS gives the Winston Lake branch the opportunity to touch many more lives with numerous additional services, Gabriel believes.

"This gives us that holis-

tic approach to truly provide a well-rounded view of what a kid needs," Gabriel said. "We want them to use this facility as a resource."

Young leadership is becoming a pattern at the Winston Lake Y. Gabriel's predecessor was Jarrod Covington, who was in his late 20s when he came to the Y less than two years ago. Covington left in the summer to serve as executive director of two Y branches in Memphis, Tenn.

Winston Lake Y Board Member Vernon McHam says the branch has held up despite the fact that it has been without an executive director for several months. The leadership structure at the branch has also been tweaked. Staff members now report to one of several directors on site, instead of reporting to the executive director directly, as they had in the past. The new system frees Gabriel up to do more work within the community, according to McHam.

'Shawan's major responsibility is to get out there and sell, sell, sell the Gabriel says he doesn't Winston Lake YMCA," said McHam, who believes that Gabriel's energy and lifelong affliation with the YMCA will help him encourage more and more local people to take advantage of the Winston Lake facilities and its droves of

services for people of all Gabriel has spent most of his professional career with the Y in some capacity. Most recently, he served as execu-

tive director of COS "This was a great career move for me," stated the father of two. "It puts me in position to do the two things I want to do most in life: provide for my family and serve my community."

With scarcely a month on the job, Gabriel is already making changes, focusing specifically on staff development, fiscal responsibility and enhancing the Y's presence in the greater commu-

Getting things to his liking has required some long days at the office, but

Nominees sought for Human Rights Medal from A&T SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State Universit currently seeking nominations for its Human Rights Medal. award recognizes individuals who have endeavored to cor social injustice and have notably contributed to the bettermen

The award was established by A&T Chancellor Emer James C. Renick to honor individuals whose courageous acts

a reflection of the extraordiaction nary against social injustices that demonwas strated on Feb 1, 1960, by four A&T freshmen - Ezell Blair Jr. (Jibree) Khazan)



Franklin The A&T (or Greensboro) Four.

McCain, Joseph Alfred McNeil and David Richmond Jr. The winner will be notified in December and invited to accommodate the award at the Sit-In Breakfast marking the 49th anniversar

the Greensboro Sit-In Movement, Friday, Jan. 30, 2009. The Human Rights Medal is presented to an individual has had a positive impact on correcting social injustices and of humanitarian activities. Any outstanding individual who has a positive impact on humanity is eligible to receive this awar

Anyone may nominate. Nominations must be received b p.m. Friday, Nov. 7. Forward all entries and/or questions to Committee for Awards, Honorary Degrees, Fall Convocation

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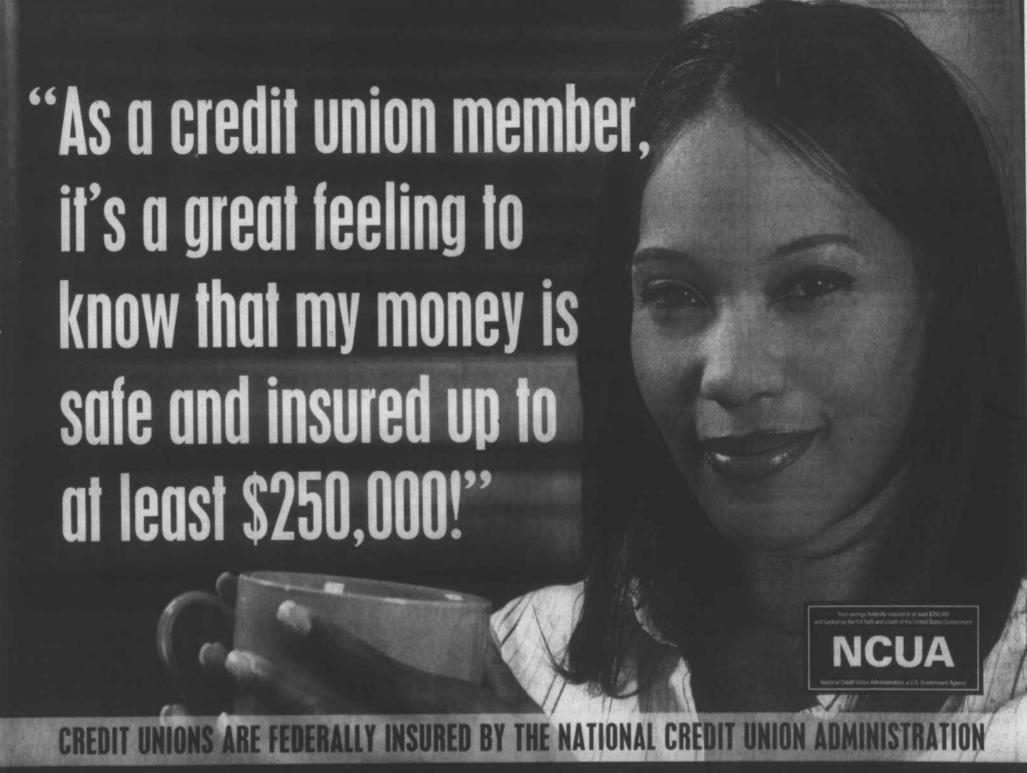
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