



Runners sprint to Durham track meet

-See Page B10



Political star will be missed greatly

-See Page A9



Ladies exercise the night away

-See Page B1



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THE CHRONICLE

Vol. XXXV No. 48

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, July 30, 2009

Officials want fun, orderly NBTF

Organizers asking crowds to be patient and courteous

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Excitement is building across the city, as the National Black Theatre Festival (NBTF) draws closer. In a matter of days, Winston-Salem will be transformed, infiltrated with the influx of tens of thousands of purple clad theatre-goers, as is the Festival's 20-year tradition.

While the large crowds have become hallmarks of the NBTF, they have also, at times in the past, been a hindrance.

The thousands that descend

upon downtown can bring pedestrian traffic to a standstill. Although clashes have been few and far between during festival week, there are bound to be a few bad tempers as a result of the massive influx. NBTF organizers are asking festival-goers to bring their good manners and patience along with them next week.

"We just want people to be patient and show that good, North Carolina warm hospitality because we will have guests from all over the world here," said Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin, the widow of NBTF Founder Larry



Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin

Leon Hamlin.

The 2007 NBTF saw a large number of teenagers venturing downtown to try to be a part of the NBTF action in some way. Gerry Patton, the executive director of the N.C. Black Repertory Co., which puts on the NBTF, hopes that this year's slate of "Teentastic" NBTF events gives young people ages 13-19 a more creative outlet for their energies.

Most of the '07 Teentastic events were held at the Dixie

See NBTF on A5



Photo by Layla Farmer

BBBS volunteer Frank Thomas.



Photos courtesy of DD&G Entertainment

Tosha Thompson (seated) and Bern Nadette Stanis in "CAUTION! Heartache Ahead."

DO-IT-YOURSELF FILMMAKING

'Good Times' actress among stars of Greensboro woman's first short film

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

A budding Greensboro screenwriter/director will see the fulfillment of a lifelong dream when she watches her very first film premiered in Maryland on Friday.

Dornycya Suggs wrote, directed and produced "CAUTION! Heartache Ahead," a short, independent film shot in her adopted hometown of Greensboro and starring Bern Nadette Stanis, the actress famous for playing Thelma on "Good Times."

She had always dreamed of making movies, but wanted to do it the right way.

"A lot of people think that anybody can make a movie and everybody can make a movie, but not everyone can make a movie well," said Suggs.

"CAUTION!" is the story

of a young married couple struggling to keep their relationship alive after the husband breaks his vow of fidelity. Suggs said she did not want to make another film about an outraged wife who discovers her husband's indiscretions. Her film focuses on the wife's decision to stay with her man, despite his wandering eye.

"It was just a story I knew that people could relate to," said Suggs, who says she has friends who have experienced similar situations. "I had plenty of materi-

al." Although Suggs always yearned to be a filmmaker, when it came time for her to choose a college major, she picked architecture, a field in which she worked for a year. She wrote screenplays as a hobby. After she married and became a stay-at-home mom

See Suggs on A5



Suggs

A Worthy Investment

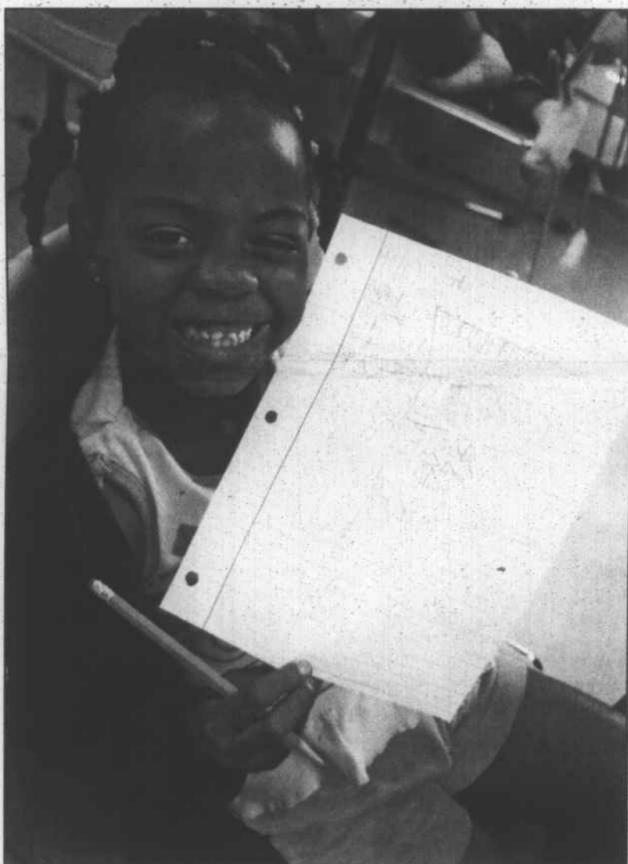


Photo by Layla Farmer

Little Nasha Galloway shows off her work last week during a session of HAWS' Summer Teaching Enrichment Program (STEP). The program has been made possible this year by the support of a number of partner agencies. See the full story on page A3.

A Few Good Men

Agencies seek to recruit 100 male mentors for kids

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Big Brothers Big Sisters Services Inc. has initiated an ambitious campaign in conjunction with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Greensboro and High Point-based Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Central Piedmont.

Launched July 24, the "100 Men, 100 Days" campaign is designed to recruit new big brothers to the programs, all of which are lacking volunteers of the male variety.

"We all need more male volunteers," said Judi Saint Sing, of the local BBBS office. "On average, we have about 300 little brothers waiting (for big brother matches) across the Triad."

The Big Brothers Big Sisters organization provides mentoring opportunities for area children, ages six to 13, who are in need of positive influences in their lives.

"Most of them come from single parent homes, or are being raised by extended family, and the (adult) males are not in the picture," Sing explained. "...we believe that these kids need guidance and reinforcement. If they're living with their moms, they just need a male's perspective."

See Mentors on A5

Fire victims find allies in ministers

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

Victims of recent fires that damaged three local apartment complexes were given the royal treatment Tuesday, by members of the Minister's Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity.

In the past three weeks, separate blazes at Alder's Point, Colonial Heights and Countryside Villa apartments have left many homeless. The Red Cross is providing temporary shelter and other necessities. Members of the Conference wanted to do their part as well. Tuesday they treated fire victims to a hearty lunch and gave them \$25 WalMart gift cards, clothes, shoes and bags of toiletries like soap, tooth paste and deodorant.

Minister's Conference President Dr. Carlton Eversley said that churches



Photo by Todd Luck

A volunteer helps a fire victim to pick out some clothing.

have an obligation to help those in distress.

"It's a very straight forward Christian commitment

from the community of faith to people in need," said Eversley, who says he is proud of how the faith com-

munity has responded so far to the tragedies.

See Ministers on A5

DON'T PASS THE BUCK

BUY LOCAL



WS CHAMBER

