



WSSU has mind on basketball season

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Ministers open hearts to students

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Gospel music comes to the fair

North Carolina Room
Forsyth County Public Library
660 West Fifth Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
20409



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FORSYTH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
660 W 5TH ST
WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-2755

THE CHRONICLE

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Photos by Todd Luck

Hemenway's "Zora Neale Hurston: A Literary Biography."

Celebrating Zora

Library plans major roll out for this year's Big Read

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

More than 130 people packed into the Diggs Gallery last Thursday night to hear about the life of author Zora Neale Hurston.

Dr. Robert Hemenway, author of "Zora Neale Hurston: A Literary Biography" spoke on Hurston's life. The event was part of this year's Big Read, co-sponsored by the Forsyth County Public Library and Z. Smith Reynolds Library at Wake Forest University. The project's goal is to get the whole county reading Zora's most famous work, "Their Eyes Were Watching God."

"We are in the middle of a six week celebration of all things Zora," said Elizabeth Skinner, Big Read chair and assistant county library director.

A puppet show performance of Hurston's stories, screenings of documentaries on Hurston's life, and many book discussions of "Eyes" are just a few of the Big Read activities. The film adaptation of "Eyes," produced by Oprah

Winfrey's Harpo Productions and starring Halle Berry, was screened last Monday. The final event will be a presentation of "Zora," a one woman show starring Kim Brockington presented by the North Carolina Black Repertory Company on October 24 and 25 at the Arts Council Theatre. Forsyth County Library Director Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin said the attendance at the events has been good so far.

"Eyes" was chosen from among several books that have been done by other communities throughout the country using Big Read grants from the National Endowment of the Arts, which are designed to promote reading in the United States. Sprinkle-Hamlin said "Eyes" was of interest to many in the community and a personal favorite of hers.

"We felt it would fit in our community and we would have a diverse audience," said Sprinkle-Hamlin.

Born in 1891, Hurston grew up in Eatonville, Fla., the nation's first incorporated

See Big Read on A12



Skinner

FAIR-Y LAND



Photo by Kevin Walker

Chanel Williams, right, and her friend, Debbie, joined thousands of others Sunday at the Dixie Classic Fair. All the rides, games, food and excitement were almost too overwhelming for Chanel's son, Cintonio (seated up top), and Debbie's boy, Jason. The two little ones could not keep their heads still as they surveyed the scene.

Parents urged to be open about sex

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

A panel discussion on Teenage Pregnancy Prevention and Sexuality held at the Central Library Tuesday night served as the kickoff of Forsyth County's participation in a national campaign to increase parents' willingness to talk to their children about sex.

"Kids want to learn about sex," commented Teen Talk Coordinator Rolanda Coleman, "and parents actually have the most influence over their (children's) choices about sex."

Observed in October of each year, "Let's Talk Month" is designed to help



Photo by Layla Farmer

Board Chair Carrie Worsley accepts a proclamation from Mayor Allen Joines.

See Talk on A12



Photo by Layla Farmer

Dan Besse and Derwin Montgomery at Hanes Park.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF CITY COUNCIL RACE

Council Member takes on future Council Member on the track to generate excitement about voting

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Democrats Derwin Montgomery and Dan Besse will never have to face off in the City Council elections, but that didn't stop the two from vying for bragging rights Monday afternoon, with a 400-meter foot race.

The race was the brainchild of Besse, 54, the Council's youngest incumbent. He challenged Montgomery, 21, to the race, themed, "Everybody's in the Running," in hopes of increasing awareness of the upcoming municipal elections.

"These are very important contests with respect to what kind

of city government we're going to have for the next four years," Besse remarked. "If Derwin and I can help draw some interest in the importance of these elections, it'll all be worthwhile."

The foot race found Montgomery the victor, with a slim, 11-second margin over his elder competitor. Montgomery, who participated in track and field in high school, finished the lap around the track at Hanes Park in one minute, two seconds.

"Hey, double or nothing," Besse quipped, as the two stood side by side at the finish line, panting.

See Race on A12



Photos by Layla Farmer

Pollard

A Divine Decade

WFU School of Divinity celebrates 10th anniversary

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Wake Forest University celebrated a landmark in the history of its School of Divinity Tuesday morning, at the school's Wait Chapel. Sept. 12, 2009 marked the official tenth anniversary of the ecumenical Divinity School's founding. Current

divinity students joined with alumni, faculty and staff members to observe the occasion at the school's fall convocation.

"There was a great spirit in the room," WFU President Nathan Hatch said, relating a tale of the gathering that led to the divinity school's inception. "New divinity schools do not often start, and it was clear that something special was happening."

A decade later, the divinity school still stands strong on the principles it initially embraced, added Hatch.

"There is an abiding spirit here of service and of great hope," he commented. "...this is indeed good work."

The service employed the help of many current and former students, who served in various capacities, from Margaret Leinbach, a member of the School's Class of 2003, who read the Scripture for the day, to Cedric Wright, a member of the Class of 2010, who read an excerpt from famed African American author Toni Morrison's novel, "Beloved." The Divinity School Choir also performed several selections.

The school also began the 2009-2010 season of its Steelman Lectures series at the convocation. The series was endowed in 1998, by the late Dr. Stanford L. Steelman, an accomplished biochemist, in honor of his wife, Margaret A. Steelman, who is also now deceased. Members of the Steelman family were in



Miles

See Divinity on A10

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