



Aggies reshape athletics department

-See Page B10



Dees talks about justice at Wake

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Carver honors former coaches

-See Page B1

North Carolina Room 75 cents

660 West Fifth Street
Winston-Salem, N.C.

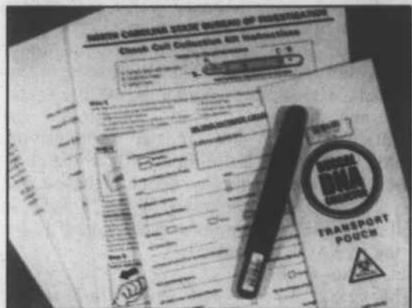


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Submitted Photo

Cops begin controversial collecting of suspects' DNA

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Police Chief Scott Cunningham announced last week that the Winston-Salem Police Department would begin Feb. 1 collecting mandatory DNA samples from some local arrestees in compliance with the DNA Database and Data Bank Act of 2010, which Gov. Bev Perdue signed into law last year.



Eversley

Cunningham said the Police Department supports the law, which requires those who are arrested for certain crimes to submit to a DNA collection before their release.

Under the law, those arrested for crimes including murder, manslaughter, rape, serious assault, burglary, armed robbery and others will be required to have their DNA collected and submitted to the state's DNA database. The DNA, which is collected at the time of arrest - not conviction - will then be added to the State Bureau of Investigations' DNA Database Bank. If the arrested subject refuses to provide a DNA sample, the magistrate will make the collection of the DNA sample a condition of pretrial release.

If the charges are dropped or the defendant is later found not guilty or is found guilty of a lesser charge, he or she may have their DNA removed from the database at their request, according to the statute. After June 1, 2012, district attorneys will be responsible for having the DNA destroyed in these instances.

See DNA on A9



Pop Stars

New popcorn business has no-holds-barred approach to flavor

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Buffalo wing. Dill pickle. Jalapeno-ranch. Banana pudding.

These are just some of the more than 75 flavors of popcorn (yes, popcorn) available at The Popcorn Fanatic, a new gourmet establishment in the Silas Creek Crossing shopping center.

Though the store offers traditional butter, cheese and caramel renditions, sisters-in-law Sharon and Sherri Debnam aren't confined by the restrictions of conventional popcorn flavors. In fact, the co-owners, whose husbands are brothers, say they draw inspiration for their flavors from practically everywhere.

"We have something for everyone," said Sherri, a city native who has been married to her husband Staphon Debnam for 13 years. "Popcorn is really a comfort food and one of the healthiest snacks. It's the number one snack food in America."

"We've had people come in and say 'I don't like popcorn at all.' Once they experience some of the exotic flavors, they convert," added Sharon, who has been married to Derrick, the elder Debnam brother, for 15 years.

The Popcorn Fanatic also sells fudge, lovingly baked in the home of Barbara Debnam, the women's mother-in-law. Both their husbands and their 17 year-old sons also work in the shop.

"It's been a family thing,"



Photos by Layla Farmer

Sister-in-laws and business partners Sherri and Sharon Debnam.

said Sherri, a North Forsyth alumna. "Their mother, Barbara, she has really been the backbone and really kept us on task because she really wants us to succeed."

The Debnams launched their business in 2001, when the after-

math of the 9/11 attacks rocked the economy and their husbands, who at the time worked for the same company, feared for their jobs. D&D Concessions Kettlecorn, as the company was

See Popcorn on A11



Photo by Layla Farmer

Rev. Dr. William Barber II

NAACP delivers a call to action

Local chapter plans to take two bus-loads to HKonJ March

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

NC NAACP President Rev. Dr. William Barber II made a stop in the Twin City last week as part of his Triad Mobilization Tour to promote the upcoming HKonJ (Historic Thousands on Jones Street) People's Assembly Mass Demonstration and March.

Now endorsed by more than 100 organizations and every major African American Christian denomination, the annual HKonJ drew more than 5,000 in its inaugural year. Barber said. On Feb. 12, the multiracial collaborative will again march from Estey Hall on the campus of Shaw University in Raleigh to the North Carolina State Legislature Building at 16 W. Jones Street in support of the "14-point People's Agenda for North Carolina."



Patterson

The Winston-Salem Branch is chartering two buses to the march, which has adopted the theme "Forward Together, Not One Step Back" for its 2011 gathering.

"We're calling on people of all races, all colors ... to meet us for a mass march on Raleigh," Barber proclaimed during his visit to the Branch NAACP on Oak Ridge Drive Friday afternoon. "It's not a moment, it's a movement. We gather in Raleigh so we can organize our local communities."

The People's Agenda calls for action on issues ranging from affordable housing to protecting immigrants' rights, promoting environmental justice and abolishing the death penalty. The resegregation of schools

See NAACP on A2

Y tries new approach to fight childhood obesity

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

A group of local youth got a crash course in nutrition and wellness Tuesday evening at the Lowe's Foods store on Reidsville Road in Walkertown.

Eight youngsters from the Winston Lake Family YMCA's Kid Fit For Life Youth Obesity Initiative took part in Be a Smart Shopper! a nutrition initiative the grocery chain provides for children that includes samples and a tour of the store.

"Lowe's Foods... is very much a community organization," said Karyn Griffin, the store's tour guide. "We want to help the community as much as possible and I think that helping kids make healthy decisions is vital to the growth of the community."

The kids sampled avocados, pretzels, yogurt and havarti cheese and toured the produce section and other areas where fresh food is stocked. They even got to meet one of the grocery store's lobsters, which one of the children dubbed "Herman." The lobster was an example of what not to eat, Griffin said.

"Things that we pay a lot of money for aren't always



Photos by Layla Farmer

An employee from Lowes Seafood Department show the kids a live lobster.

See Kid Fit on A5

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