



Smith to give WSSU graduation address

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AIDS agency is shutting its doors

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Special kids get a special field day

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THURSDAY, April 21, 2011

Brown leaves School Board

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Citing health issues, School Board Member Geneva Brown said this week that she is stepping down from the Board of Education.

"My breathing became labored probably four or five weeks ago," explained Brown, a lung cancer survivor. "I started looking at my health and I said, 'Wait a minute, if my health is going bad, I don't need to be on the Board.'"



Brown

Brown, who celebrated her 81st birthday earlier this week, spent 38 years as an educator and school administrator before joining the Board in 1994.

"I feel free," she said after informing Board Chair Donny Lambeth of her resignation. "There's nothing like feeling free in a sense that you have lived a life you can be proud of. I didn't do everything right, but I enjoyed what I did."

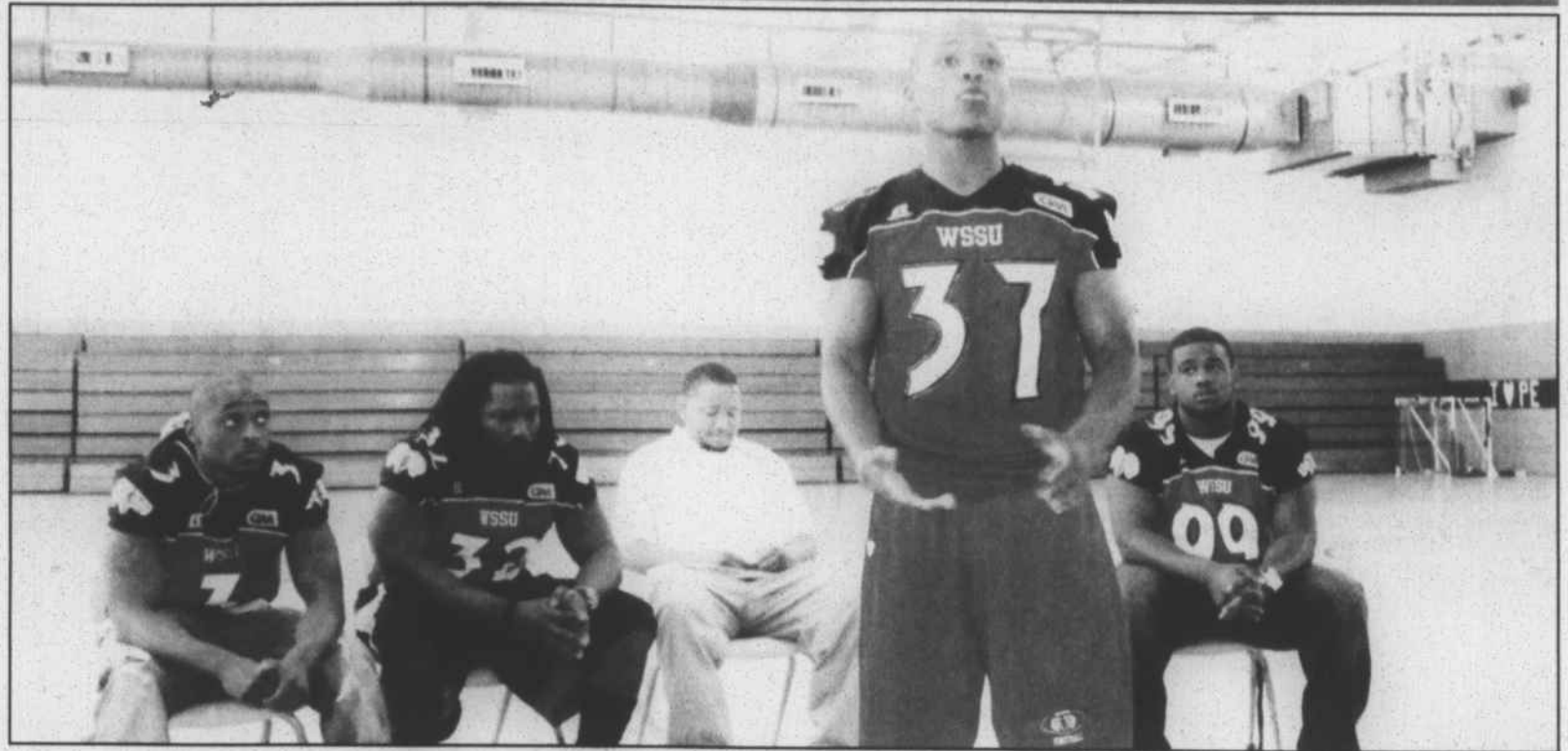
Brown, who has grappled with health issues for some time and had missed School Board meetings as a result, had been advised some time ago by some to step down from the Board. Many thought she would not seek a fifth term on the board last fall because of her health.

She says she had considered not running in the 2010 election, but she didn't feel ready to give it up. "I enjoyed it because I could see us doing some good things for kids and as long as I could see that happening, I was going to stay there," she remarked. "I wanted to stay on for the children, but my health just comes and goes."

Lambeth says that while he understands Brown's challenges, he is sorry to see her go. "She's a very special person and I will miss seeing her regularly," he commented. "She has such a high character and she's very credible. When she talks, people listen to her."

Lambeth said Brown approached him at his first Board meeting in 1994 and told him she was going to nomi-

See Brown on A10



Photos by Todd Luck

Player Randy Fobbs speaks as Patrick Terry, Cedric Hickman, Coach Duane Taylor and Duvontae Covington listen.

Real Talk From Rams

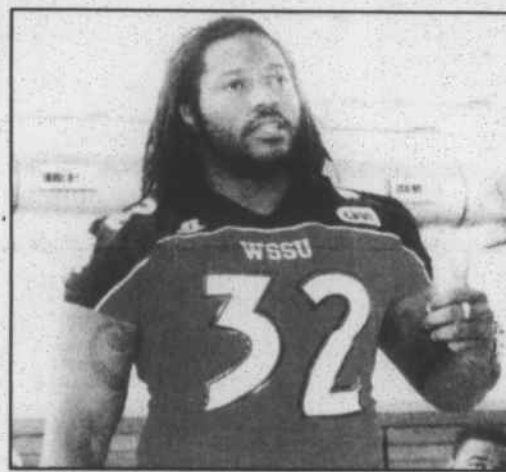
Football players use own mistakes, struggles to motivate Griffith students

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Football players from Winston-Salem State University spent time at Griffith Academy last week, talking to students and tossing around the pigskin.

The WSSU Football program has developed a special bond with Griffith, an alternative school for students with high level disciplinary offenses. This was the third year coaches and players have visited the school.

Last Thursday, Assistant Football Coach Duane Taylor and players Patrick Terry, Cedric Hickman, Randy Fobbs and Duvontae Covington paid a visit. Having respect for others and getting a solid education were the main points they hammered home.



Cedric Hickman shares his experiences with Griffith students.

"How you going to make a lot of money? You follow the rules," said Taylor. "Number one rule is to graduate."

Some of the students grumbled when Taylor asked them if they liked school and

their teachers. But they grew quiet when Taylor told them about his own youth. Taylor told of growing up with parents who were largely absent because of their drug use. The responsibility of caring for his five siblings fell on his young shoulders. Taylor said he watched as many of his friends became victims of violent crimes, but said he was determined to not meet their fate.

"Plenty of times I didn't want to go to school," said Taylor. "I had every reason not to go to school. But I had to make that decision, that conscious effort to be great. I wanted to be different than everyone else in my neighborhood."

Taylor set himself apart by staying dedicated to his school work and the sport he loves. He attended Fayetteville State University, where he was the school's football squad's quarterback for four years and received his undergraduate degree in business. He taught business at a high school in Hoke County

See Rams on A9



Photo by Layla Farmer

Vann McDonald and Abraham Grant hard at work.

TRAILER TREASURE

Inmates given chance to put their skills to good use

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

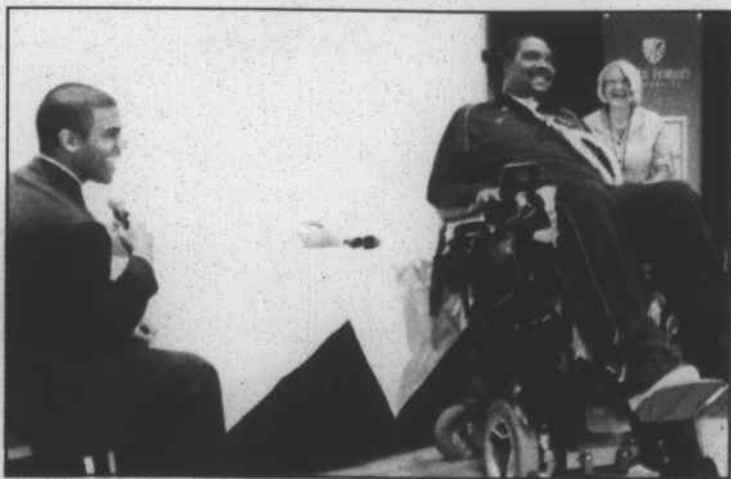
Vann McDonald still has to serve another year in prison to repay his debt to society, but that isn't stopping the 38-year-old Greensboro native from giving back to the community now.

McDonald is one of a handful of inmates at Forsyth Correctional Center on Craft Drive who have been given the opportunity to help their fellow man through a unique project spearheaded by Forsyth Jail and Prison Ministries

(FJPM), a Christian based, community-funded ministry that provides counseling re-entry guidance to the incarcerated in the Winston Salem area. FJPM agreed last summer to provide volunteers to outfit a brand new 24-foot trailer for Samaritan's Purse, a Christian organization which provides assistance to victims of natural disaster, war, disease and famine in the U.S. and abroad. Samaritan's Purse is providing the supplies; and FJPM is providing the manpower for the project, which is

See Trailer on A11

Memory Lane



WFU Photo by Ken Bennett

Tyler Caldwell, former NBA star Rodney Rogers and Beth Hopkins share a laugh during the *Losing to Win: Discussions of Race and Intercollegiate Sports* conference at WFU last week. See the full story on page A3.

BROTHERLY LOVE

Omegas honor memory of Dr. Drew with blood drive

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Seventy years ago, trailblazing African American physician Dr. Charles Drew pioneered large scale blood banks with the American Red Cross by developing blood storage and processing techniques that have been responsible for saving millions of lives.

Members of Drew's fraternity, Omega Psi Phi, Inc., continue to honor Drew's legacy and accomplishments by holding blood drives in his memory across the nation.

Winston-Salem's Psi Phi Chapter held its Fifth



Dr. Drew

See Omegas on A2

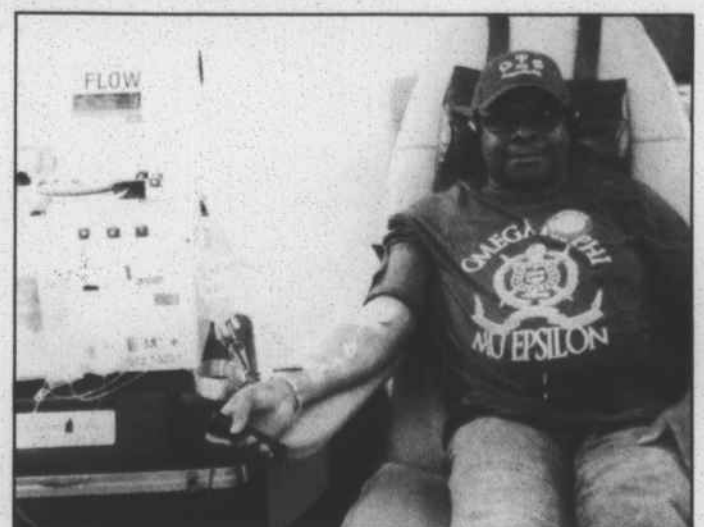


Photo by Todd Luck

Ralph Latta Jr. gives blood last Saturday.

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