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Achievers
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THURSDAY, May 19, 2011

Love - old and new - in the air at prom for seniors

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Fourteenth Street Recreation Center was the place to be for the 50 and up crowd last Friday night as the Golden Crowns Seniors Club hosted the ninth installment of its popular senior prom. Nearly 300 came out for the black tie affair, which included dancing, door prizes and food.



Harold and Pearline Faulkner recently celebrated their 50th anniversary.

"It's something for the seniors to do and with the recession, it's a good price - it's only \$8 a ticket," said Golden Crowns member Marva Reid, who helped to organize the event this year. "Some of us have missed our proms so we can reenact them here."

Mary Samuels, president of the Hanes Hosiery Seniors' Club, said she looks forward to the camaraderie the prom offers by bringing together seniors from across the area.

"There are so many people that you haven't seen for such a long time," related Samuels, who added that one of her teachers from Atkins High School was in attendance.

Though high school proms are typically centered around romance, the Golden Crowns had a decidedly friendlier flare. Many of the attendees gathered with groups of friends or arrived on the arms of their children or siblings. Still, the evening was far from being devoid of romance; in fact, some of those present could have written the book on it.

Harold and Pearline Faulkner celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April 8, and are still going strong. Harold, a former soldier, said he met the love of his life while stationed at Fort Benning, Ga. The base was not far

See Prom on A11



Al and Queen Withee tied the knot four years ago.



Annie Moore and Bobby Crawford have enjoyed nine years of marriage.



An emotional Jeanette Valentine poses with her son and fellow graduate, William.

Class of '11 ready to tackle the real world

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Stephen A. Smith, a nationally-recognized sports journalist, told graduates of his alma mater on Saturday that after they are done celebrating the grand accomplishment of earning a college degree, they will be faced with the real world and all the challenges that entails.

"As of Monday morning it's every man, woman and child for themselves," Smith said as he delivered Winston-Salem State University's Fall Commencement address to nearly 900 graduates and 11,000 attendees at the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

Smith was preaching to the choir when his words hit the ears of Kristen Dunlap, a 21-year-old graduate from Charlotte. The information technology major had no less than three internships in her college career, including one at a NASA facility in Langley, Va.

Her diligence has been rewarded with job offers from two Fortune 500 companies. She accepted a position with Altria (previously Philip Morris), where she also interned, and will begin work in July.

Dunlap said she wasn't surprised that she was recruited by employers even before she graduated. She'd done the "front end work" academically and with the internships and assumed that all of it would pay off.

"I feel like if you do what you're supposed to do, good things will come to you," said Dunlap.

For Jeanette Valentine, 50, graduation was an emotional day and the fulfillment of a promise she'd made long ago. Neither of her parents graduated from high school. Valentine



Stephen A. Smith addresses graduates.

See WSSU on A11

LIFE-SAVER ON WHEELS

Forsyth Medical program provides free mammograms

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Despite being out of work on and off since 2001, 48-year-old Donna Rollins of Winston-Salem says she hasn't missed her annual mammogram since she turned 32.

Rollins, a Fort Lauderdale, Fla.-native, lost her mother to breast cancer 17 years ago.

"She was one of those that didn't like doctors," Rollins said of her mother, who succumbed to the disease at age 62. "When she was in the hospital, I was so upset with her. I was like, 'Mama, they can save people now.'"

Since that time, Rollins



The Breast Clinic served over 6,000 women last year.

says getting a mammogram annually has been a priority to her, regardless of whether she had health insurance.

"I feel blessed because a lot of people out there don't understand how important it is to get a mammogram."

See Clinic on A9

Talented bowler lands athletic scholarship

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE



Kelsea Yarbrough shows off her skills on Monday.

When Kelsea Yarbrough started bowling the summer before her eighth grade year, she saw it simply as a way of passing the time. She never imagined it would someday pay her way through college.

"I really didn't like it when I first started because I wasn't any good," admitted the 17-year-old Winston-Salem native.

But the East Forsyth senior, who accepted an athletic scholarship to Norfolk State University earlier this week, said she kept picking up the ball week after week and before she knew it, she was having fun.

Kelsea's parents were surprised when their daughter began to show more than a passing interest in the sport.

"I thought it was going to be like just a summer hobby but she never stopped," said her mother, Rochelle Smith. "She really took to it."

See Yarbrough on A5

DEPARTING DEACS



Graduates and faculty prepare to take their places on Monday for Wake Forest University's commencement ceremony. Read about one talented WFU graduate on page A2.

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