



Rams Baseball releases schedule

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Hope of HIV/AIDS celebrated at ACS

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THE CHRONICLE

Vol. XXXVIII No. 15 WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. THURSDAY, December 8, 2011

City prays for Rep. Womble

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Over the course of his 16-year tenure in the North Carolina Legislature, State Rep. Larry Womble has won accolades for his support of a variety of groups, from eugenics victims to Liberian immigrants and even death row inmates.

This week, Womble's supporters had a chance to pay him back. Womble was involved in a devastating car crash on the night of Dec. 2 that claimed the life of the other driver, Winston-Salem resident David Carmichael, 54, a grandfather of two.



File Photo
Rep. Womble speaks at a recent event.

Womble remained in critical condition Tuesday, following a series of surgeries to address the injuries he sustained. Family members say the beloved politician and Winston-Salem State University alumnus is stable and responsive, but a long recovery likely awaits.

Womble's friends and loved ones flocked to Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, where the 70-year-old is being treated. The conference room near the Intensive Care Unit was made the official headquarters for the Womble camp Sunday, after throngs of well wishers overwhelmed the hospital waiting room. Many have kept a daily vigil since the accident occurred.

A steady stream of visitors flowed into the room Tuesday afternoon. State and local dignitaries swapped stories about the outpouring of community support for Womble that they have witnessed beyond the hospital walls. State Sen. Linda Garrou and WSSU Police Chief Pat Norris related stories of being stopped in the grocery store and on the streets by concerned citizens inquiring about Womble's state.

In Raleigh, his presence was missed as well. Members of the Eugenics Compensation Task Force, which Womble led the charge to form, opened their meeting Tuesday by acknowledging his absence. State Rep. Earline

See Womble on A2



Photo by Todd Luck

Assistant Superintendent Carol Montague-Davis, Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams (also pictured below) and U.S. Sen. Kay Hagan play the djembe at Paisley IB Magnet School.

Drumming Up Support

Peace Corp director touts agency during local stops

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

U.S. Sen. Kay Hagan brought Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams to Winston-Salem last Friday. Their mission was to encourage local young people to consider joining the Peace Corps.

The pair started the day at a morning forum at Winston-Salem State University. They then stopped by Paisley IB Magnet School, whose International Baccalaureate curriculum seems ideal for future Peace Corps volunteers.

"You are just the kind of people we want in the Peace Corps, people who care about

the rest of the world, who understand a lot about the world and have studied the rest of the world," said Williams, who was appointed to his position by President Barack Obama in 2009.

International Baccalaureate is a rigorous curriculum designed to prepare students to live and work in a global economy. Paisley Principal Dr. Gary Cone said that the program has worked for Paisley, which has 820 students in grades 6-10. Paisley is a School of Distinction, meaning at least 80 percent of students performed at or above grade level on end-of-year testing. As part of the IB curricu-



See Williams on A9

Residents invited to give input on police checkpoints

Photo by Layla Farmer

Arturo Escalante has received several tickets at stationary license checkpoints in recent years.



BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

For Winston-Salem resident Arturo Escalante, driving down the wrong street could cost him dearly.

Escalante, 23, a native of Guerrero, Mexico, is not a US citizen and is therefore unable to obtain a drivers license. He lives in fear of the stationary license checkpoints the Winston-Salem Police Department stages at locations around town in hopes of

catching unlicensed drivers and other violations. Though he knows he is breaking the law, Escalante says making a living in the Twin City is next to impossible for someone without transportation.

"I just don't have a choice," he declared. "Your whole livelihood depends on whether you can go to work or whether you can go buy groceries. (Driving) is a necessity that everyone that doesn't have a license has to risk."

See Checkpoints on A6

Ball Boys



Photo by Layla Farmer

Former NCCU standouts (from left) Wes Johnson, Rob Little and Tim McIver came together last week to celebrate Little's retirement. The three men have remained friends since being a part of the Eagles team more than 30 years ago. Read more on B1.

The Cheer Leader

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

As a youngster, city native Ashley Payne loved nothing more than being in the spotlight.

These days, she loves nothing more than helping other young girls shine.

"Since I'm too old to cheer, I coach," explained the 24-year-old. "I cheer through the girls - that's my cheering."

In her first year as a head coach of the Tiny Indians Junior Midget Cheerleading Squad, the Carver High School alumna has managed to garner national attention for her 10-member squad. Her girls took first place in recent Pop Warner competitions at both the local and regional levels. As a result of their success, the squad will be featured on the Web site of the national Pop Warner organization.

"A lot of people on that field doubted my girls," Payne said. "They didn't even think (the team) would last, so it felt good to hear them call first place."

See Cheer on A9



Photo by Layla Farmer

Ashley Payne (right) and her two assistant coaches Di'Ante Crews (center) and Jeffery Pearsall.

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