



More honors for WSSU football

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'Blind Side' comes to Salem College

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Celebrating
39 Years
of Community Journalism

THE CHRONICLE

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THURSDAY, October 24, 2013

Loved-ones remember babies gone too soon

BY LAYLA GARMS
THE CHRONICLE

While people across the nation were celebrating Independence Day last year, Frederick Huffin and Sherica Becoat were mourning the loss of their newborn daughter, Jordyn, who had to be delivered early when Becoat suffered from a life threatening complication.

HELLP, a variant of preeclampsia, was causing Becoat's vital organs to fail.

The couple's tiny daughter held on for 12 days before succumbing to an infection.

"It's had a great impact on me – it still does, to this day," stated Becoat, a dialysis technician. "I never want to bury another child."

The short time they had with their daughter was precious, Becoat said.

"We did get a chance to have plenty of pictures with her and spend time," she related. "It was sleepless nights, but it was not time wasted."



Frederick Huffin and Sherica Becoat's t-shirts bear a photo of their beloved Jordyn, who died at 12-days-old.

Photos by Layla Garms

to miscarriage, stillbirth, neonatal death or ectopic pregnancy.

For Huffin, a nursing student at Winston-Salem State University, it was a chance to pay homage to the daughter he still loves and misses.

"She's not forgotten," he declared. "Just because a person's not here doesn't mean they're not

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'Four' the Good Times

Alumni continue schools' legacies

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

The Big Four Reunion wrapped up Saturday night with a dance at the Benton Convention Center that had alumni of the county's historically black high schools dancing and celebrating into the wee hours of the morning.

Each year, graduates of Atkins, Carver, Paisley and Anderson come together. The Carver Alumni Association hosted this year. (The schools' alumni associations alternate hosting duties.)



Audrey Rogers and Ronald Curl were among the hundreds of attendees at the dance.

"It's a recognition of schools. (We) celebrate the historically black legacy that was

brought out of the historically black schools: education, discipline, being taught respect," said event chair Carl McLaurin, a 1965 Carver graduate.

The reunion began last Thursday with a religious service at Emmanuel Baptist Church. A luncheon was held Friday at the Sundance Plaza Hotel, where former Big Four teachers were the guests of honor. Also on Friday, a talent and fashion show took place at Carver High School.

There was always

See Big Four on A5

SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT

WSSU Photo by Garrett Garms

Winston-Salem State University's Rudy Anderson Jr. was awarded the 2013 Erskine B. Bowles' Staff Service Award last week in Chapel Hill. Anderson, a longtime employee of the university and well known community servant, was selected from a pool of more than 32,000 UNC system staffers. Read more on page A10.



War anniversary symposium tackles black perspective

Photos by Todd Luck

Dr. Maya Angelou prepares to recite her poem last week.



BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

The emancipation of slaves and its vast impact was the crux of a symposium held last week at Winston-Salem State University and Wake Forest University.

"Lay My Burden Down" was the second of three planned statewide symposiums to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, which was fought from 1861 to 1865. The first conference was held in 2011 in Raleigh, and the last will be in 2015 in Wilmington. This was the only symposium completely

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