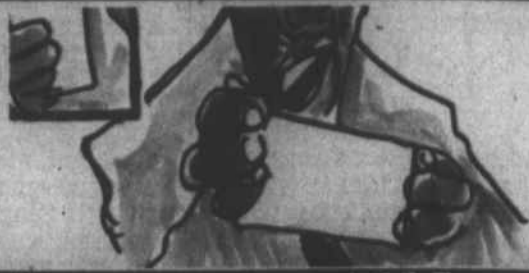


Every
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counts



Wrap up!

• See Opinion/Forum pages on A6&7 •

See Sports on page B1 •

THE CHRONICLE

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WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, May 19, 2016

Can city be a Top 50 metro area?

Winston-Salem is behind its job goal, faces poverty and education challenges

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem is currently far short of its job growth goal of becoming one of the top 50 metropolitan areas in the country by 2020, according to a State of the Community presentation on Tuesday, May 17.

Community leaders, led by Mayor Allen Joines, made presentations showing the city's progress and struggles in areas like jobs, poverty, infrastructure and education. The goal is to be one of the top 50 metropolitan areas by 2020



Mayor Joines

Anderson

Hickman

was announced last year with a promise of annual progress updates.

"We're going to come back to you every year and report how we're doing," said Joines. "We're going to be totally transparent, we're going to tell you the way it is."

In order to reach the goal, Forsyth County will need to add 27,000 net new jobs by 2020, which is 5,400 jobs a year. However, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Forsyth County had net job growth of 2,715 between September 2014 and September 2015. This was below the growth of Guilford, Buncombe and New Hanover counties.

"Frankly, the growth is not as good as we'd like it to

See City on A2

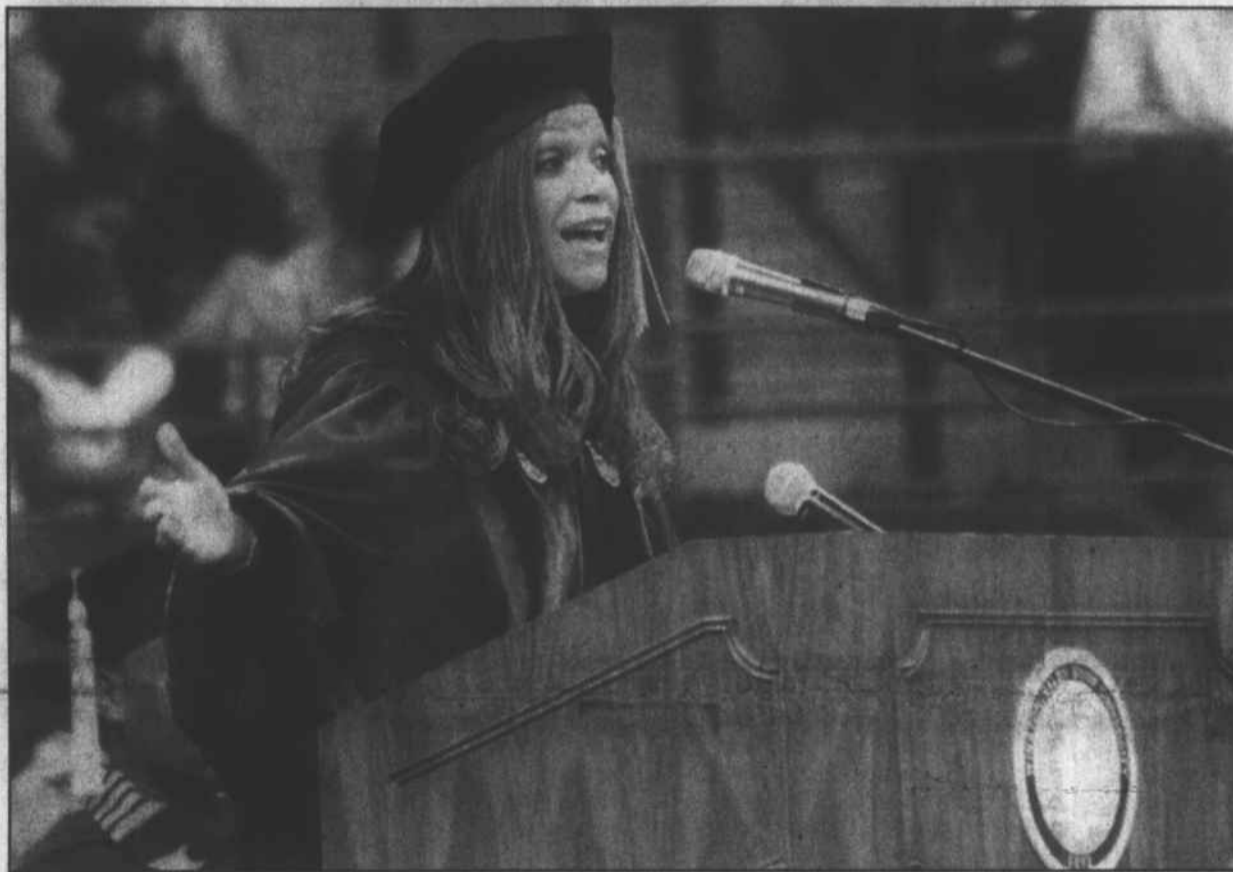


Photo by Tevin Stinson

Author and well-known scholar Melissa Harris-Perry delivers the keynote address during Winston-Salem State University's commencement ceremony on Friday, May 13 at the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

Melissa Harris-Perry: Defy odds, make a difference

WSSU graduates ready for next phase

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

The Lawrence Joel Veteran's Memorial Coliseum was filled with joy and excitement last Saturday as more than 800 undergraduate and graduate students from Winston-Salem State University completed their academic voyage during the 126th commencement ceremony.

During their seemingly endless wait to cross the stage, chipper laughs

and chatter echoed throughout the crowded corridors as the students discussed their journey to graduation day and future plans.

Durham native Jarian Mitchell said he was excited to be receiving his bachelor's degree in justice studies. Following graduation Mitchell, a member of Omega Si Phi fraternity, will be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Military Police Division. Mitchell said although it was hard at times, the support of family and friends is what got him through.

"It wasn't easy," he said. "I'm just thankful for all the support I received

over the past four years. Without them I may not be standing here today."

Magnum Cum Laude candidate Tevin Taylor patiently stood in line chatting with friends while waiting to receive his degree. "It's a blessing," he said. "This is something I have really worked hard for my entire life. To be standing here today is just a blessing."

An exercise science major from Rocky Mount, Taylor said now he will pursue a doctorate in physical therapy.

"This is only the beginning. I will

See WSSU on A8

Improvise in life, speaker tells WF grads

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Wake Forest graduates need to be ready to improvise, said commencement speaker Eboo Patel, who served on President Barack Obama's Advisory Council on Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

Patel spoke to about 1,900 graduates during the Monday, May 16 commencement ceremony held on campus. Patel is an Oxford graduate and Rhodes Scholar, who is founder and president of the Interfaith Youth Core, a Chicago-based non-profit that promotes interfaith cooperation. Patel was tapped for the interfaith council position in

2009, which helped develop Obama's Interfaith and Community Service College Challenge that invites colleges to commit to interfaith and community service programming.

Patel used musician Louis Armstrong and jazz, an art form known for improvisation, as an analogy for what Wake students will need to do in life, saying the nation has ventured into a "Jazz age" that requires constant change. He used his own example of joining the speech team after not making the Varsity basketball team, which helped lead him to his current career path.

"I'm not telling you to throw away the roadmap you've sketched for your life, I'm just saying your liberal arts education ought to have given you the eyes to read the road signs along the way and the ability to change direction when the original plan goes sideways," said Patel.

Camry Wilborn of Winston-Salem was among the graduates who've already done a bit of adapting. After ini-

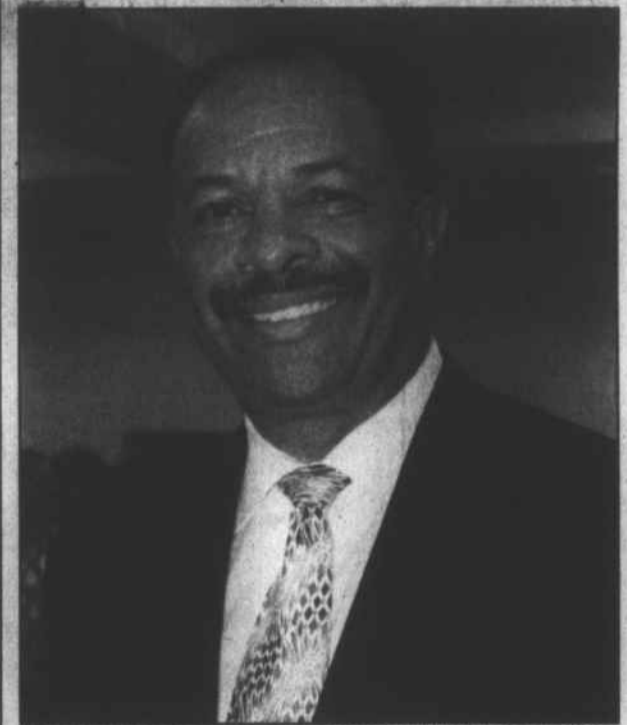
See WF on A8

Alan Caldwell, Reynolds' civic engagement head, retiring

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Alan Caldwell will soon retire after making his mark as head of civic engagement at Reynolds American Inc.

Caldwell, a 35-year Reynolds employee, has become the face of Reynolds' efforts to help the community. Reynolds American is a Fortune 500 company headquartered in Winston-Salem that owns R.J. Reynolds Tobacco



Caldwell

Company, which is the second largest tobacco company in the country.

Caldwell received the Man of the Year award at *The Chronicle's* Community Service Awards banquet in April, which he said was a humbling experience.

Caldwell was born in 1956 in Winston-Salem. He grew up in East Winston during segregation.

"We had one part of town we were supposed to be on and the other folk had a part of town they were supposed to be on," he said. "But it didn't stop us from having dreams and values and things of that nature."

He said the city was a great place to grow up. He's the sixth of seven children. His father was a janitorial supervisor and his mother was a department store clerk. Neither went to college but made sure all of their children did. He said that he and his siblings were "steeped in religion and taught how to do things the right way the first time."

Caldwell is also well known for his football career. He said it was his brother Everette, who he shared a newspaper delivery route with, that convinced him to play football at Carver Middle School. His father refused to let them, concerned they wouldn't be able to keep up with their work and school, but Everette forged his signature so they could play anyway. Eventually word got back to their father that they were playing, and winning, football games. After seeing them in action, he let them continue since they were able to keep their grades up, but told them to never sign his name to anything again.

Caldwell received an athletic scholarship to UNC-Chapel Hill where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in industrial relations in 1978. While at UNC, he was

See Caldwell on A2

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