



PHOTO/ROSE STURDIVANT YOUNG

The board of the Old Westview Cemetery Inc.'s mission is the restoration of the Wadesboro burial ground. Board members have enlisted the help of U.S. Sen. John Edwards and Rep. Robin Hayes with congressional funding as well as professionals to determine the cemetery's owner and a census of individuals buried there.

Wadesboro natives aim to restore cemetery

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 tery's restoration last year, but was turned down. This year, the board has again enlisted the help of U.S. Sen. John Edwards (D-N.C.) and Rep. Robin Hayes (R-N.C.) on Capitol Hill.

search was launched to find the deed holder. A genealogist was also documenting headstones and sifting other records for clues as to who is buried there. The earliest gravestones were placed in the late 19th century, which likely means former slaves are buried there.

"When we grew up, all the people who were the first doctors and lawyers in Wadesboro are buried there," Young said. "But we're looking for the documentation for the kinds of

people buried there."

Young's drive has been rewarded with inquiries into the restoration and pledges of support back home and across the country.

"The phone's always busy," she said as she fielded a call. "People have been calling me from California and all over the country."

For information or to make a tax-deductible donation to Old Westview Cemetery, call Sturdivant toll-free at (877) 331-6989 or e-mail sturdivant1961@hotmail.com.

CIAA means big bucks for host city

POST NEWS SERVICES

RALEIGH — The CIAA basketball tournament, which plays this week at the RBC Center, has become one of the most highly-attended, African-American cultural destinations in the country. The tournament has generated millions in economic impact for the Wake County and scholarship dollars for the 12-member schools.

Since moving to Raleigh from Winston-Salem in 1999, the tournament has set new standards of success for collegiate events. The event's popularity, attendance and general scholarship fund contributions have increased by 100 percent.

"The City of Raleigh has been a fantastic place to host the CIAA tournament," CIAA Commissioner Leon Kerry said. "Last year alone, the tournament generated \$10.2 million in economic impact, \$859,236 in tax revenues and \$750,000 for the



FILE PHOTO

The CIAA basketball tournament had an economic impact of \$10.2 million on Raleigh last year.

general scholarship fund, of which we are most proud of." The weeklong event includes the CIAA/Ebony Fashion Fair Fashion Show,

a step show throwdown, a golf classic and a new and improved Super Saturday, featuring the battle of the bands, cheerleading exhibition, a first-ever Streetball Classic and the Miss CIAA Contest.

A tournament-staple Mr. CIAA, whose real name is Abraham Mitchell, will also attend the games. Mitchell is a longtime crowd favorite, strolling the aisles during the games wearing different outfits adorned in team colors.

THE CHARLOTTE POST (USPS 965-500) is published weekly for \$40.00 per year by the Charlotte Post Publishing Co., 1531 Camden Rd. Charlotte, NC 28203-4753. Periodicals postage paid at Charlotte, NC. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to **THE CHARLOTTE POST**, PO Box 30144, Charlotte, NC 28230

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