

Schexnider will choose WSSU athletics director

By SAM DAVIS
Chronicle Sports Editor

The next director of athletics at Winston-Salem State University will be hand-picked by Dr. Alvin J. Schexnider, the university's chancellor, the *Chronicle* has learned.

Schexnider, who officially became the school's chief executive officer in September, said that he will not form a search committee to handle the search process to name a successor for Al Roseboro, who

resigned his post last month. Rather, he plans on personally overseeing the entire process and hopes to have someone in place by the beginning of the next academic year.

Schexnider did not return calls to the *Chronicle*, but said in a release from the office of media relations that he is "looking for someone first and foremost committed to the academic excellence of student-athletes." He also said he wanted to have "someone committed to creating a study-centered culture at the university."

According to Schexnider, "The role of an athletics director has changed from one who simply oversees coaches and eligibility regulation requirements. Increasingly, successful athletics directors have to have the skills and understanding to successfully participate in fund raising as well as marketing efforts that affect the overall well-being of the institution."

Some alumni and supporters of the university say they are in agreement with Schexnider on the necessity of having someone who is able to connect with the

Winston-Salem business community.

Hobart Jones, who said he has supported the university's athletics department for more than 20 years and is a season ticket-holder for football and basketball, said he wants to see the university build bridges with the corporate community.

"We want someone who is going to put business first," Jones said. "We want someone who can get the support of the business community. The bottom line is having

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Chancellor Alvin J. Schexnider

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Choice for African-American News and Information

THURSDAY, February 6, 1997

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Winston-Salem Chronicle

Dems choose Marshall to replace Woodruff

From Mazie to
Marshall to ...?

By BILL TURNER
Special to the *Chronicle*

Walter Marshall is like the newborn child of a couple who elected to determine the sex of the child long before its birth. Such couples have no anxiety about the kinds of colors of clothes to buy. They can pick their shade of blue for the

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nursery and decide which NFL or NBA club's logos will be the wall posters.

With the expectation already muted, the baby shower becomes rather anti-climatic. The family can make most preparations for the life of the child, including what to expect in the added financial and emotional costs of having a boy — as opposed to a woman child. To stretch this, had they chosen to plan scientifically, the family could have determined the exact day that Walter was born ... to replace Mazie Woodruff.

That dynamic was the essence of an otherwise "business-as-usual" election during which, to no one's surprise, Marshall received the overwhelming endorsement from local Democrats in a five-person showdown to replace Mazie Woodruff, who died one month ago.

Robert F. Joyce, chair of the Forsyth Democratic Party, set the tone of the room, with a dozen whites sprinkled amid more than 100 black party loyalists. Noting that he "had not seen so many Democrats at once in a long time," Joyce diplomatically nudged his party's black activists to "be more like Mazie."

Geneva Brown was slightly reserved. "It is good to see all of you here, but where have you been when we needed rooms like this filled — when Mazie was alive and fighting?" she said. Brown, now the lone black member of the overpowering Republican school board, warned and chided the family-like gathering: "Yes, Walt can walk in Mazie's shoes, but who will walk in



Robert F. Joyce, chair of the Forsyth Democratic Party, congratulates Marshall.

Walter Marshall displays a memento of Mazie Woodruff, a precinct card.



The crowd gathered to honor Mazie Woodruff, and to choose her replacement.

Party vote overwhelming

By BRIDGET EVARTS
Special to the *Chronicle*

By an overwhelming majority, the Democratic Party voted for Walter Marshall to fill the vacant Forsyth County Commission seat, empty since the death of Commissioner Mazie Woodruff in early January. Marshall, a member of the city-county school board, was one of five nominees.

Woodruff's daughter, Mildred Strange, favored the man earlier named as Marshall's strongest competitor, Baptist minister and hairdresser Jimmie Lee Bonham. Woodruff, who had announced she would not seek reelection in 1998, wanted Bonham as her replacement, said Strange. Other Democrats disagreed.

"Mazie made it fairly well-known she wanted Walter Marshall (to replace her)," said Garry Whitaker, legal counsel for the Democratic Party. Both Marshall and Bonham said Woodruff groomed them to fill her seat on the county board.

Regardless of whom the late woman may have picked, the Democratic Party chose Marshall with more than 78 percent of the available votes. "I feel great that people have confidence in me," said Marshall. "I hope to improve on what Mazie was doing."

Other nominees included Beaufort Bailey, a retired media director from Winston-Salem State University; C.P. Booker, a retired insurance executive; and former school teacher Mosé Belton-Brown. Bailey, Belton-Brown and Bonham said they would seek the nomination to fill Marshall's school board seat.

The county board will consider the Democrats' recommendation at their Feb. 24 meeting. The board usually votes in favor of the nominating party's choice. Marshall will have the opportunity to sit through two briefing sessions before the budget meetings begin.

When the District A seat was filled this week, a chapter in Forsyth County politics closed. Before casting votes for her replacement, Democratic Party members honored Woodruff with praises and

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O.J. Simpson

For Americans: different verdict, same reaction

NEW YORK (AP) — Once again the United States held its breath and waited for a verdict on O.J. Simpson.

And once again reaction seemed to explode along starkly racial lines: a black verdict and a white verdict, in the public's mind and in the courtroom.

Acquitted 16 months ago by a mostly black jury of murdering ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman, found liable Tuesday by a mostly white jury and ordered to pay \$ 8.5 million in compensatory damages.

"I knew all along, I've always known, that he did it," former Simpson prosecutor Christopher Darden said Wednesday morning on NBC's "Today" show. "I knew that sooner or later, a jury would also point the finger of guilt at O.J. Simpson."

Anise Aschenbach, one of two white jurors in the criminal trial, said she was "tickled" by the verdict.

"I've always felt like he actually did it ... but that it wasn't proven beyond a reasonable doubt," she told NBC. "You know that's really hard to explain to people sometimes."

A nationwide telephone poll of 663 people taken immediately after the verdicts were announced by ABC television found that of 66 percent who agreed with the verdict, 74 percent were white and 23 percent black. The poll had an error margin of 5 percentage points.

At Mezzaluna, the Los Angeles restaurant where Nicole Brown Simpson ate her last meal and Ronald Goldman worked as a waiter, shouts of "Yes!" and enthusiastic claps followed each finding against the former football superstar.

"Oh, thank God," said Laurie McCormick, a Brentwood stockbroker. "Now, let's get the (Simpson) kids where they belong." Simpson won a court battle with his ex-wife's parents for custody of his two children.

Reaction was bitter at Sylvia's Soul Food Restaurant in New York's predominantly black Harlem neighborhood.

"It's a disgrace," declared an angry Rudy Battle, a construction contractor from New York.

"No witnesses, and you're charging a man," said Battle, who is black. "No witnesses. This is sick. No witnesses, not even one."

Said bartender Julian Williams, 23, also black: "It's a lack of consistency. He was acquit-

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