



**Andrea Huntley**, a senior at Dudley High School and a member of the Honors Vocal Ensemble, belts out a beautiful note during her music class.

## Dudley High School vocalists invited to perform at Carnegie Hall

By DAMON FORD  
THE CHRONICLE Reporter

Dudley High School in Greensboro is home to one of North Carolina's best high school marching bands. Some would even argue that the band is better than most college bands around the nation. But if you listen closely, you will hear another sound vibrating through the halls of the school. This sound comes from students in grades 9-12 who are members of the Dudley High School Honors Vocal Ensemble.

Under the direction of Jimmy Cheek II, selected members from the

ensemble are preparing for a week-long trip to New York City April 9-13. The trip will culminate with a performance at Carnegie Hall, an experience that the Dudley students will share with only two other high schools across the United States.

"According to the information that I received from Carnegie Hall, they (ensemble) were selected by the recommendations of experts in the field of music and based on their performance ratings and state contest as well as the outstanding performances they have done in (N.C. and other) states," said Cheek.

The ensemble will work with

Maestros John Rutter and Mussel Kincheny as well as with other musicians and composers from around the world. "It's a good feeling knowing I get to go and accomplish something I've never done before," said 9th grader Stephanie Moore.

The ensemble's invitation to Carnegie Hall is a testament of their talent and abilities, but according to 11th grader Shadonna Boler "It's a lot of work...sometimes you have to schedule your life around your singing, (but) it's worth it when it all comes down to it."

Cheek, who received his Bachelor of Arts degree in music from North

Carolina A&T State University and a Master of Music in Music Education from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, has worked with the ensemble since 1990 and became Choral Director of Dudley High school in 1994. Cheek demands a lot from the ensemble and will go over a song continuously to attain perfection. "It's all in your concentration," can be heard from the director when he addresses missed notes by the teenagers, but he's not there only critic. "The students really critique themselves," said

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WINSTON-SALEM GREENSBORO HIGH POINT

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Tammy Davis, owner and administrator of High Point Family Day Care gets help from La'Laze Davis (standing), as she works with Jaylen Wilkes (left), Joshua Cox (middle) and Carrie Jones (right) during the afternoon.

## New regulations worry some local centers

Administrators and lead teachers must complete more training

By DAMON FORD  
THE CHRONICLE Reporter

This month, the N.C. Child Care Commission approved new rules that are intended to improve child care quality and safety in North Carolina.

"This is a vote for the children," stated Gov. Jim Hunt in a memo. "Our children will now have the highly trained teachers they need and deserve and they'll be safer when they are on the playground."

Joan Moran, who is the Department Chair for Early Childhood Facility at

Guilford Technical Community College (GTCC), says that the new regulations are for the good of the child as well as the provider of the service. Since most owners of child care facilities are also the administrators (or directors), Moran knows that "Many administrators have gone into it (child care) as a business and have not understood the child hood (caring) part of it," said Moran.

Some Triad care providers are not thrilled with the changes and demands of the rules. Moran understands this and is trying her

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Leon Kerr, CIAA Commissioner (left) and Ben Ruffin, vice-president of Community development, R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

"We've picked up enough sponsorship to make this one of the biggest and best tournaments ever."

Kerry said the CIAA has looked at its problems and is trying to work through them. For the first time, the conference hired a marketing firm to help it attract new fans.

"We've got to look at different approaches," Kerry said. "Obviously when you lose a program like Norfolk with its strong base of fans, you have to do something to make up for it."

"We put \$100 thousand into marketing the conference. We brought them late in the game, but

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## Students ask: Can Watt remain effective for blacks?

By DAMON FORD  
THE CHRONICLE Reporter

Congressman Mel Watt (D-NC) took a break from his visits to child care facilities in cities throughout the 12th Congressional District and talked to a political science class at N.C. A&T State University. The topic was "Political Participation and the Construction of Congressional Policy."

Watt based his lecture around four questions, with the fourth being the one that raised the most interest in the room. "Can't you be elected in a majority-white district?" was the question. Also of interest were the questions: Whose

perspectives does an elected official represent? and What is democracy and representative government really about?"

These questions are particularly relevant for the 1998 elections because the 12th District has shifted from being majority black to majority white. The old district had a 54 percent black population and 51 percent black voter registration, while the new district has a 47 percent black population with only 42 percent of the voters being black.

Watt was very candid and confident in his answers to these questions. His answer to being able to be reelected was simple, "Oh sure I can, I'm an incumbent now, people



Congressman Mel Watt (D-NC) addresses a question from senior Michael Baker, a political science major at N.C. A&T State University.

understand I'm not some alien from outer space." Watt then established the fact that there are two perspectives to consider in the district, the white perspective and the black perspective.

According to Watt, an elected

official's job is to stand by the perspective of the majority because a "representative democracy is about representing the what...the majority," said Watt, who then posed a

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## Alternative education faces changes in Forsyth

Dress code is proposed

By BOMANI MAWILI  
THE CHRONICLE Reporter

Inspired by a suggestion from Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School Board Member Rick Bagley, three employees of the county school system and two Winston-Salem community leaders took a trip to Corpus Christi, Texas to evaluate one of its alternative schools.

During a W-S/FC Board of Education meeting on Feb. 10, the group discussed the results of its trip to Texas and offered some proposals to the school board.

The group consisted of school employees: Addie Hymes, Wayne McReynolds and Curiss Little; and community leaders: Delores Smith and Khalid Griggs.

Bagley stated that he recommended the alternative school in Corpus Christi because of a telephone conversation that he had with Barbara Feldman, who was at that time the president of the American Federation of Teachers, and she suggested the trip to Texas.

"It is an alternative school for students who can't function in a

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