

# Former 'colored schools' stand as proud monuments for blacks

BY ROMANI MAWULI  
The Chronicle Reporter

Their design and structure may not be as grand or complex as the great Giza pyramids in Egypt, but the Walnut Cove Colored School and the Oak Grove School are very important to their former students, teachers and respective communities.

And despite their enormous physical differences, the pyramids and both of these schools are all recognized as monuments.

The old school stands as a proud monument to the outstanding, industrious teachers and students

who have passed through its doors," states a fact sheet issued by the Walnut Cove Colored School, Inc. "The years from 1921 to the present have been marked by unbelievable hardship. Through it all, the students from this little country school have endured. They have used the stumbling blocks placed in their paths as an impetus to soar to greater heights, achieving goals that many thought were unattainable."

One final goal, or task, of some of the former students and teachers of the now defunct Walnut Cove Colored School and the Oak Grove School is to restore and preserve their respective school buildings and

its history. Representatives from each school's preservation committee spoke at a small gathering at the YWCA in Winston-Salem on March 7. The occasion was part of a Black History Month celebration presented by the Beta Alpha Chapter of the Iota Phi Lambda Sorority.

The Walnut Cove Colored School Restoration Project was started in 1994 by Dorothy H. Dalton and other former students. Its mission statement is "to promote the restoration of the [school] in order that future generations may develop an understanding of their cultural heritage and history, and to promote the

use of the building as a landmark for education, pleasure, and enrichment of the residents of Stokes County and surrounding communities."

The Walnut Cove Colored School was constructed in 1921 in the London Community of Walnut Cove, N.C. which is approximately 18 miles north of Winston-Salem.

The school was financed by Julius Rosenwald, then president of the Sears, Roebuck and Company. His Rosenwald Fund, which was inspired by the noted educator Booker T. Washington of the Tuskegee Institute, built more than 5,000 schools throughout the South and

See PRESERVATION on A2



J.K. Irvin, chairman of the Washington Town Community Organization, speaks about his group's effort to restore and preserve the Oak Grove School.

75 cents

WINSTON-SALEM GREENSBORO HIGH POINT

Vol. XXIV No. 28

# THE CHRONICLE

The Choice for African-American News and Information

For Reference  
Not to be taken  
from this library

e-mail address: wschron@netunlimited.net

121197\*\*\*\*\*CAR-RT-SORT\*\*C012  
N C ROOM  
FORSYTH CNTY PUB LIB  
660 W 5TH ST # Q  
WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-2755

THURSDAY MARCH 12, 1998

## Is school integration about to be reversed?

North Carolina's landmark desegregation ruling has been reopened

CHARLOTTE (AP) — A federal judge has reopened Charlotte's landmark school desegregation case, a decision that some observers say could mean the end of the public school's race-based integration policies.

U.S. District Judge Robert Potter on Thursday refused to dismiss a south Charlotte father's lawsuit challenging the system's magnet school admission policies. Potter also combined that lawsuit

with the Swann vs. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education case.

That 1969 federal court ruling — later affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1971 — cleared the way for school desegregation through busing.

Potter ordered school officials to examine whether the schools still suffer from the effects of intentional segregation practiced decades ago.

"It could have lots of consequences for the city," said Gary Orfield, an integration expert from Harvard University. "... It could lead to challenges of all kinds of aspects to the desegregation plan."

By reopening the Swann case, dormant since 1981, Potter could either reinforce or terminate the original order directing the school system to use busing for integra-

See DESEGREGATION on A2

## Disabled African-American kids and public education

What every black parent should know

By Damon Ford  
THE CHRONICLE Reporter

This is the first of a three part series that addresses the federal, state and local responsibility for educating disabled children. In this series, we'll also tell readers how those laws affect African-American children. — Editor.

What options do parents have when their child is diagnosed with a physical disability or hidden disability such as attention deficit disorder (ADD) or dyslexia?

Until October 1997, Winston-

Salem/Forsyth County parents were made aware of one major option. It deals with a federal funded statute called IDEA.

In 1977, the Individual's With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) was put in place with the sole purpose of providing financial aid to states in their

efforts to ensure adequate and appropriate services for students with disabilities. But this was not the only or first major statute implemented for disabled students.

Congress passed the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which requires federal funded recipients to make their programs and activities accessible to all individuals with disabilities. Section 504,

which is found in this act, is a broad civil rights law protecting the rights of individuals with handicaps in programs and activities that receive Federal finan-

See STUDENTS on A2

### Regular Education Only Students

504 Only Students

IDEA & 504 Students

#### Idea Students

Students are qualified under one of more of thirteen (13) IDEA disabling conditions. Specially designed individual education programs are planned for each student by IEP Teams.

#### Section 504 students

Due to substantial mental or physical impairments that limit one or more of the students major life activities, special

accommodations to the student's program are required. A 504 accommodation plan is designed for each student according to individual needs.

Examples of potential 505 handicapping conditions not typically covered under IDEA are:

- \*communicable disease HIV, Tuberculosis
- \*medical conditions - asthma, allergies, diabetes, heart disease
- \*temporary medical conditions due to illness or accident
- \*Attention deficit disorder (ADD, ADHA)
- \*behavioral difficulties
- \*drug/alcohol addiction
- \*other conditions.

Disgruntled blacks in Greensboro have a message for Gov. Hunt.

## Blacks in Greensboro have a message for Gov. Jim Hunt

African Americans will air their grievances in Raleigh

By DAMON FORD  
THE CHRONICLE Reporter

"We're coming out of Egypt, we're not going to hang around Egypt any longer," proclaimed the Rev. Nelson Johnson at Bethel A.M.E. Church in Greensboro. "I quote Frederick Douglas who said that 'if there is no struggle there is no progress. Those who profess the faith of freedom

and deprecate avocation are men who want the crops without the plowing of the land, they want the rain without the thunder and lightning, they want the ocean without the running of the waves ... we've got to struggle," exclaimed Johnson in a rallying cry for unity and participation in the march in Raleigh on April fourth.

"I'm telling you right now, if you take this thing to (N.C.) A&T and tell it like it is, there's going to

be 500 (students signing up to march), if you take it to Bennett (College) and tell it like it is there will be 500, if you take it out there to the street and talk to the homeless brothers, 'You got no business being homeless ... there's enough wealth in this country for a house for everybody,'" said Johnson amid hand claps and shouts of 'amen.'

The rally and march in Raleigh

See MEETING on A2

## Black students challenge Irvin

By ROMANI MAWULI  
THE CHRONICLE Reporter

This story originally appeared in last week's paper but is being reprinted because a portion of it was omitted. — Editor.

Living up to its name, the Carter G. Woodson School of Challenge recently confronted Winston-Salem Journal columnist Nat Irvin about his incendiary Feb. 15 column, "Acting Up: If only blacks would behave, they'd be OK?"

Irvin's column has sparked some debate and anger in the Black community, even apparently amongst the children.

Irvin, who is black, wrote, "And it is blacks themselves who insist on perpetuating their image as general menaces to society, contributing little to the general good. Instead of at least trying to behave as the rest of society does — by blending in — they are out and about, doing just the opposite and making spectacles of themselves."

It was statements such as this in his column



Nat Irvin

that brought Irvin face to face with the fifth graders and middle school children at the Carter G. Woodson School of Challenge, where their motto is: "Strive To Excel Not To Equal."

The Woodson School is in its first year of existence. It is named after the Black scholar and historian Carter G. Woodson who is credited with initiating the observance of Black History Month with his creation of Negro History Week in 1926.

See IRVIN on A2