



John Edwards talks with a supporter during a stop in Winston-Salem Tuesday. Photo by Damon Ford

Clergy group lends support to Edwards

By DAMON FORD
THE CHRONICLE

With the Nov. 3 elections fast approaching North Carolina U.S. Senate democratic candidate John Edwards made a stop in Winston-Salem during a workshop held at Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

Edwards, who is hoping to unseat incumbent conservative Republican Leach Faircloth,

spent most of his 20-minute visit talking about schools and welfare reform with a group of local African American clergy.

"We've got to reduce class size," Edwards said. "Teachers just can't do their job when they have 30 kids in a classroom."

"We need computers and technology in the classroom. We need after school programs. Everybody knows that at-risk kids are most

likely to get into trouble from, particularly in chronically disadvantaged areas from the time they get out of school in the afternoon to the time their parents get home from work."

Edwards says he supports welfare reform but adds the program still needs work.

"We've got to vigorously provide job training," Edwards said. "Welfare reform is all well and

good. If you're going to ask people to go to work then you have to give the training.

"The second thing we need to do is make sure they can get the jobs, quality jobs where they can better their lives and the lives of their family. The third thing is we have got to provide child care.

Edwards also pushed the right buttons on affirmative action.

See Yates on A12

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Smooth transition



J. Reid Lawrence, far left, was named interim executive director of the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem during a meeting of HAWS' Board of Commissioners last week. Above Lawrence, with Board of Commissioners Chairman William Andrews and board member William Benton, listens as the board votes him director.

Lawrence set to lead HAWS

By T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

J. Reid Lawrence is used to compromise.

Growing up with 11 brothers and sisters in Cleveland County, he had to make a few.

In the coming months, undoubtedly, Lawrence, the new interim director of the Winston-Salem Housing Authority, will have to make many more.

"I can't do anything by myself, but with the help of the (HAWS) staff, the community and the board of commissioners we will jump these hurdles that we need to jump," Lawrence said.

Lawrence's optimism is sorely needed; the agency is at a crossroads after just coming off of a few rocky paths.

Last summer, the housing authority experienced one of the most turbulent periods in its history as a result of a \$200 million federal grant that was awarded to the agency by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

But many lows soon followed. Mayor Jack Cavanagh moved to slash the HAWS Board of Commissioners by four, inciting protest and anger among many local residents.

Then there was the now infamous incident involving the \$28,000 check sent accidentally to a public housing resident by HAWS.

All of this came to a head early this month when the board of commissioners fired Executive Director Marie Roseboro citing lack of confidence.

See HAWS on A13

Despite ruling, Congress could have final say on Census

By WALTER R. MEARS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - In the long stalemate over the right way to conduct the 2000 Census, the next chapter will be written by the Supreme Court - but with no guarantee it will be the last one. There's still the matter of money.

Republicans are counting on the court to rule that the census must be a head count, without the sampling system, akin to scientific polling, that the administration wants used to reach otherwise uncountable Americans.

But even should the court approve sampling as constitutional, a leading GOP opponent of the system said it wouldn't automatically happen.

The catchall appropriations law passed Wednesday includes \$1 billion for the census, but only until June 15, 1999. So the census will be up again next spring.

On Nov. 30, the Supreme Court will hear the case for sampling from the administration and against it from the Republican House and opponents in six states. Both sides say a decision by March is essential to get on with the census on April 1, 2000.

The census determines apportionment of House seats among the states, the shape of congressional and other political districts within them and the allocation of about \$180 billion a year distributed under federal programs.

Two federal courts have ruled that sampling cannot be used in 2000, but the decisions dealt with federal law, not the constitutionality of doing it with sampling as well as counting. The Constitution requires an "actual enumeration" every 10 years, and Republicans say that means counting every American, not a 90 percent count, 10 percent sampling system.

See Census on A11

Big Four to celebrate era of the 'big band'

By DAMON FORD
THE CHRONICLE

Football games between Winston-Salem's four black high schools, aptly given the moniker the "Big Four," were fierce but it was the halftime show involving the schools' bands that became the stuff of legends.

"Sometimes people would come to just see the bands because we didn't have a good team," said Robert Shepherd, former Anderson High School band director. "You couldn't keep a good football team every year, but the bands were consistent. The band kept it together."

"Everybody would try to figure out what tunes this band would do and what tunes that band would do. It was furious but healthy competition."

This weekend, when Anderson, Atkins, Carver and Paisley gather for their annual joint homecoming, the big bands will take center stage.

Former band directors Harry Wheeler of Atkins, Rudolph Boone, Sr. of Carver, Shepherd of Anderson and the late Bernard Foy of Paisley were the catalyst behind making the music of these African American schools memorable.

Saturday night at 8 p.m. at the Benton Convention Center, these four men along with the late Billy-Friende, Sr., the first principal of Paisley, will

See Big Four on A12



District Court Judge Roland Hayes faces a challenge Tuesday, but says he's undaunted. "I'm not even thinking about that," he said. "I feel positive about my future."

Photo by T. Kevin Walker

Hayes faces challenge in district court race

By T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Compared to the high-stepping, glittery drama that surrounded him, Judge Roland Hayes' appearance at Winston-Salem State University's homecoming parade was relatively tame.

But the parade was an event that Hayes was not about to miss. As his dark-colored car moved down Fourth Street at a snail's pace, Hayes smiled politely and waved to the hundreds of people that lined each side of the street.

An hour before Hayes made his descent down the parade route, a team of young men had already made the journey on foot, passing out index card-size fliers bearing Hayes' name and proclaiming his campaign slogan: "Our most experienced judge."

The slogan is true; it's not an embellished claim that one candidate puts out one week only to be rebutted by another candidate the following week, but an undisputed fact.

With 15 years on the bench as a judge in North Carolina's 21st Judicial District, Hayes has served longer than any other judge in the county, and he's the only African American district court judge in Forsyth County.

See Hayes on A10



Tale of the tape - Aldermen debate CAT-TV

By T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Sex, lies, videotape and violence.

In some form or another, they all were brought up at Monday night's board of aldermen meeting during a debate over funding for CAT-TV, a local cable public-access channel.

The dispute surrounding the station began earlier this month when a request to include a \$425,000 annual budget for CAT-TV in the city's proposed 10-year franchise agreement with Time Warner Cable was criticized by some board members.

The cable provider currently gives the station about \$130,000 a

year as part of its deal with the city.

The station receives no tax money and relies on money provided by Time Warner to produce thousands of shows each year directed by and starring local citizens.

Ironically, it is some of those programs that have some aldermen uneasy about negotiating for the station and others wanting to eliminate the station altogether.

"If the medium is going to be used to threaten violence, that threatens the medium for everybody else," Alderman Vernon Robinson said.

The CAT-TV program "Truth to the Youth," which aired in the summer, has raised Robinson's ire. The show - produced during

the hubbub surrounding the reduction of the city's housing authority board of commissioners - targeted board members, and others who supported the move to shrink the board with violence, Robinson said.

A videotape of the program, provided by Robinson, was shown at the meeting to the disdain of some board members.

"Mr. Terry, we don't bully and

we don't intimidate—we eliminate," a darkly-clad man on the program said, referring to Alderman Fred Terry.

In another segment of "Truth to the Youth" Robinson is seen in a confrontation with another man at a community meeting. On the tape the man can be heard threatening to stick a crutch up Robinson's anus if he did not leave the premises.

Citing the First Amendment guarantee of freedom of speech, many of the stars from CAT-TV's daily lineup packed the aldermen's chamber to lobby for the station's funding and continuation.

"At this point I would like to see the board not abort this baby that has brought about change in

Winston-Salem, but to let this baby grow," Kareem Allah, host of a show on Islam, said referring to the trailblazing station.

Khalid Griggs, host of another program on Islam, said that by not supporting the station because of a few programs, board members may be throwing the baby out with the bath water.

"Many of us are very insulted by the comments of Mr. Robinson...This is not about personal issues," Griggs said.

Griggs also praised the station for the audio/visual training that it has provided to hundreds of everyday citizens.

CAT-TV user Anita Baldwin

See CAT-TV on A11