#### Triad businesses in spotlight See Page B8

PORTSWEEK **And Justus** 

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**COMMUNITY** 

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Smalls make mark in business

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# IRONICIE.

The Choice for African American News

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2000

#### ttle against flag reaches Triad

270

African Americans ngaged in a battle to ng of the Confederouthern states. nth, tens of thou-

anti-flag protesters olumbia, S.C., to flying of the flag at onfederate flag has

part of the lexicon pop culture. ikes of Hazard," a evision series in the

'70s and '80s, made the Rebel Confederate hero Robert E. Lee. flag fashionable by sporting in on the sides of a souped-up sports car nicknamed the Gener-

The flag can be found on car bumper stickers, license plates and T-shirts.

The flag also found a place in government.

In the '90s it was used in a seal affixed building permits and real estate licenses issued in North Carolina.

And each year, the flag is spotlighted in Raleigh during a celebration of the birthday of

But the new year has ignited new fire storm in the battle over a symbol some call a reminder of slavery and others call their her-

But it was last month's march that brought the battle to the national landscape.

On Jan. 1, the NAACP launched a financial boycott of South Carolina because of the flag. Already, the state has been forced to cancel some of its most popular and financially successful black cultural events, including the annual Gullah Festival,

held on the Gullah Islands off the the state's coast.

But South Carolina isn't the only state being targeted. Last weekend, the Super

Bowl was the springboard used by the Rainbow/Push Coalition's effort to remove the Confederate flag from the state of Georgia.

Since the battle over the Confederate flag has reached epic proportions, what do African Americans in other areas of the country, like the Triad, have to gain or lose by the removal of

See Battle Flag on A9



Though the state of North Carolina doesn't fly the Confederate flag, as recently as the early '90s, the flag was a fixture on contractors licenses in the state.

## Cold snap hurting homeless



er Glover helps package stale bread that will go to farmers to feed their livestock during the cold weather.

### Vinter storms create challenges

AUL COLLINS CHRONICLE

recent rash of bad weather has ked havoc with one of the city's most e populations – the homeless.

series of winter storms, which ped as much as 15 inches of snow in of the Triad, has meant full beds at Winston-Salem Rescue Mission, a

er caters to homeless men. The snow, coupled with a cold snap left nightime temperatures in the , has meant a full house at the Mis-For the past two weeks, most of the

ters 96 beds have been full. and the mission is having a hard time

ng staff in to serve those in need.

effect in trying to get your staff in so they can help provide the services to the men. said the Rev. A. Neal Wilcox, executive director of Winston-Salem Rescue Mission. "We're fortunate we're able to get our staff in to supervise the care of the

Wilcox said the mission is "running full" and workers are scrambling to find beds for everyone in need.

"We won't turn anybody away in conditions like this," he siad. "We'll set them in a chair if all of our beds are full and all of our cots full. We've been setting people in chairs now for over a week.

Wilcox said that during the snow storms the mission averaged about eight

"This cold is having a real adverse more men than usual and as many as five

men a night are sleeping in chairs. All year long, "we run full all the time, just about....The beds are all full. We'll average around 90 to 92 or 93 year round" Wilcox said. We actually, with these extra people we take in in chairs and cots, we average over our bed capacity.... We have a capacity that we're given by the Fire Department. We're very sensitive to that and we try not, for safety reasons, to exceed that. Ninety-six is the capacity, beds and cots together."

"We have a waiting list in July," Wilcox said.

But a full house isn't the only chal-

See Rescue Mission on A11

## ocal agencies struggle to keep up

AUL COLLINS CHRONICLE

The recent winter storms left Lightse Ministries, 519 W. Eighth Street, rcrowded as homeless men tried to out of the cold.

staff member Anthony Carpio said Thursday that for the last several Lighthouse Ministries had been ig in about 20 more men per night usual – about 60 men in all comd to about 40 usually.

We really don't have the room. e on orders from the director not to them away. We have mats. We put

n on the floor," Carpio said. Another problem was the days when

house Ministries workers could not drive to pick up donations of food. So Lighthouse Ministries had to feed more people staying at the shelter and had less food to do it with.

That called for some creative meal planning, such as serving French toast for lunch, to stretch the food on hand, Carpio said.

Lighthouse Ministries has not had enough jackets for men who need them, so some men have gotten five or six shirts, to wear one overtop of the other. Rising fuel costs also are putting a

burden on Lighthouse Ministries' budget, Carpio said. 'We really can use any and all dona-

streets were treacherous and Light- tions the public can provide," Carpio said. That would include money, clothing (especially warm clothing) and

#### Sunnyside Ministry

Roma Combs, director of Sunnyside Ministry of the Moravian Church, said late last week, "Weather is affecting things but not that much. We've not been officially closed any day," but some days Sunnyside had to operate with a small staff. "Sometimes it's a pretty valiant effort to get here, but

some of our clients ... walk.

The higher cost of heating fuel is a

See Shelters on A11

### BLR: Stuart shouldn't hear cops' grievance

BY T. KEVIN WALKER THE CHRONICLE

Some city residents are hoping that a scheduled address by the executive director of the North Carolina NAACP at Monday's aldermen meeting will jump-start a grievance process that three former African American police sergeants are currently entangled in.

But a source intricately involved with the ongoing matter says the officers are becoming apprehensive about the process and the man who

will lead it.

The officers – Victor Robinson, Chuck Byrom and Steve Hairston were demoted by Police Chief Linda Davis for failing to adequately patrol an Aug. 28 rap concert at Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum. The event was marred by fights, chair throwing and a much talked about, but unsubstantiated, sex act performed on stage by a female con-



Stuart

The officers, off-duty at the time, were hired to provide security for the event. Four other off-duty officers were also part of the security

#### Tatum calls for firing of chief

Mocksville police chief facing charges after allegedly assaulting black man

BY T. KEVIN WALKER THE CHRONICLE

The suspension Mocksville's police chief after allegedly manhandling an African American resident is indication that some law enforcement officers still treat non-whites as second class citizens, the president of the Winston-Salem branch of the NAACP said last week

Chief Richard Sink was suspended Jan. 20 by Town Manager Terry Bralley after being charged the day before with the misdemeanor simple assault of Robert Davis Sr. on July 20. Sink's suspension comes four months after the State Bureau of Investigation launched an inquiry regarding the assault allegations.

The SBI investigation was sought by Mocksville officials who were spurred on by a letter



Tatum

from the Winston-Salem NAACP. Davis had filed a complaint with the organization soon after the alleged incident. There is not an active NAACP branch in Mocksville, which is about 30 miles southeast of Winston-Salem. Sink's court date is scheduled for today.

Bill Tatum, president of the Winston-Salem NAACP, said

See Mocksville on A9