

**SPORTS WEEK**

ons advance to regionals

o in a row for Rams?



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See B1



See A5



See C1

**COMMUNITY**

HRC honors local activists

Black men offer advice to teens

WINSTON-SALEM GREENSBORO HIGH POINT

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# CHRONICLE

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2000

## Community deals for justice

impassioned speech at the end of Sunday worship services at Emmanuel Baptist Church. "It was murder." Four officers were acquitted of all charges Friday after a the jury — made of four blacks and eight whites — deliberated more than 20 hours over the 24 charges the officers faced. The officers all contended that they fired in self-defense on Feb. 4, 1999, after Diallo, 22, reached for an object they thought was a gun while standing in the vestibule of his Bronx apartment building. The object turned out to be a wallet. Diallo was

See Pulpits on A8



A woman lights a candle during a vigil for Amadou Diallo held at Goler Memorial AME Zion Church.

## Diallo verdict a 'wake-up call'

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

There were not enough people at the noon service at Goler Memorial AME Zion Church to light the 41 white candles that were erected near the pulpit in the top of a cardboard box. Even after each of the more than two dozen parishioners took turns lighting one of the candles, nearly an entire row stood useless. The situation was a little too ironic for the Rev. Seth O. Lartey, the church's pastor.

"All of us can't even light 41 candles," Lartey said, "but this man had 41 bullets shot at him." The man to whom Lartey referred is Amadou Diallo, the unarmed African immigrant who was slain by four white New York City police officers last year as he stood in the vestibule of his Bronx apartment. The acquittal of the officers last week by a racially mixed Albany jury has caused nationwide outrage among many. Several demonstration marches

See Shooting on A9

## Jazz (Fire)Man



Chief John Gist indulges his love of jazz each week by hosting a show on WSNB. Gist has been a disc jockey for a little more than two years.

## Chief fights fires, spins discs

the station two years ago. Gist plays artists like Kim Waters and Kenny G on his two-hour show. He often brings in records and CDs from his own extensive collection. "I play music that people can identify with," he said. "Sometimes a jazz artist will remake an R&B song and people will call in and ask me about the CD I just played." Gist decided to do the radio show when he heard an advertisement on the radio calling for volunteers at WSNB. He contacted station manager Joe Watson and the rest is musical history. The only thing he lacks, he said with a chuckle, is an on-air handle. "I thought coming up with one of those names would be kind of young," he said. Even without a hip DJ name like MC Fireman, Gist has developed a cadre of loyal listeners. "Some days I get around 10 to 15 calls," he said. "Some days I don't get any, but that is just par for the course for anyone."

See Chief on A12

## NAACP calls for boycott of hotel

BY CHERIS HODGES AND T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

Officials with the Adam's Mark Hotel chain are happy their problems with the Department of Justice may finally be coming to a close, but the NAACP is calling on economic sanctions against the hotel chain anyway. In a statement released last week by the NAACP, President Kweisi Mfume criticized the hotel chain for refusing to meet with the NAACP or the Florida attorney general. Both have filed separate suits against the chain claiming it has an established pattern of discriminating against African Americans. The NAACP suit involves five African Americans who said they were discriminated against by the Daytona Beach hotel during last year's Black College Reunion (BCR). NAACP officials are angry that the chain is only attempting to settle with the Justice Department, which launched an investigator

See NAACP on A12

## West talks census

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

Head count. Short form. Long form. Confidentiality. The census is a concept that most adults have difficulty fully grasping; it's rocket science for most young people. But help came Tuesday as one of Winston-Salem's most successful native sons came home to teach Census 101 to middle school students. Togo West Jr., the U.S. secretary of veterans affairs, told the student body of Atkins Middle School that it should take an active role in getting parents and neighbors involved in Census 2000. "Something big is coming to town," West told several hundred student in the school's gymnasium, "something very big." West explained to the students that the state and federal governments use census information to determine where to build schools, draw congressional districts and allocate funds for such things as road improvements. He also told them about the census' history of undercounting the nation's population, especially young people and minorities. West — a Winston-Salem native who graduated from Atkins when it was a high school and lived on the same street as the school — relayed a local even to demonstrate how avoiding census forms can be to the detriment of a community. "Why do you think (Fourteenth Street School, which was once located beside Atkins) is not there anymore?" West asked before answering his own question. "Because somebody took a census and determined there were no enough youngsters (in the community) to support keeping the school open. Census 2000 has been given much attention in Winston-Salem and many other cities. Mayor Jack Cavanagh formed a Complete Count Committee several months ago to develop ideas to achieve an accurate local count.

See West on A

## Matthews hailed sit-in efforts

it was, though he vividly recalls the store's staff throwing away his glass afterward as if it were contaminated. There was nothing extraordinary about the soda, he said, but it was the most filling drink he has ever had. "It was a good soda in the fact that I had defeated the system," Matthews said last week. What his drink at the lunch

See Matthews on A12



Carl Matthews, far right, talks about his role in the Civil Rights Movement during a panel discussion.

## Activists: Continue to fight racism

BY CHERIS HODGES  
THE CHRONICLE

Forty years after students from Winston-Salem Teachers College and Wake Forest College forced down the walls of segregation, community activists warned current students that the battle is not over. Wake Forest University was the site of a panel discussion on race relations.

The panel of whites, black and Hispanics included Carl Matthews, leader of the Winston-Salem sit-in movement; I. Smith, president of the Winston-Salem Urban League; the Rev. Nelson Johnson, a witness to the 1979 Klan and Nazi massacre in Greensboro; and Richard Bowles, chairman of the Southeastern Economic Development. "If you reject a dog, h

See Activists on A1