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City gearing up for Roots Day see page C1

SPORTS WEEK

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COMMUNITY

Chronicle honors activists  
...  
WSSU business school accredited

WINSTON-SALEM GREENSBORO HIGH POINT

Vol. XXVI No. 32

# THE CHRONICLE

The Choice for African American News

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2000

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Photo by T. Kevin Walker  
Winston-Salem State University Chancellor Harold Martin, left, and Forsyth Technical Community College President Desna Wallin, sign a pact that will make it much easier for students to earn bachelor degrees.

BY CHERIS HODGES  
THE CHRONICLE

With a handshake and a smile, Winston-Salem State University Chancellor Harold Martin and Forsyth Technical Community College President Desna Wallin made it much easier for local students to complete their education.

## WSSU, FTCC sign historic pact

### Students will have easier time transferring

The two college heads signed an articulation agreement Tuesday that allows students who earn associate degrees in areas like business administration, criminal justice, computer engineering technology and other programs at FTCC to transfer

to WSSU to earn their bachelor degree.

"This is extremely important," Martin said. "This not just a passing effort. It is extremely important that the leaders of the institutions of higher learning make this work."

The agreement allows students who graduate from FTCC to enter WSSU as juniors. The move goes far beyond the 1997 general articulation agreement between University of North Carolina

See WSSU on A10

## ting to counted

ype, local residents of census forms

Several Hispanic groups have joined forces with the Census office to talk about the importance of the Census.

Most people who have received their questionnaire were mailed a "short form."



Bonham

This form asks basic questions and includes 17 ethnic choices. The "long form" asks more detailed questions and requires the respondent to list his or her name.

Jack Fleer, a political science professor at Wake Forest University, said it is "interesting" to see all of the ethnic choices on the form.

"These are the most racial categories ever permitted on the form," he said. "In some ways I think it will complicate things more," he said.

Fleer said the racial statistics collected by the census will be used to draw some political districts and "inadvertently used for the allocations of certain funds."

See Census on A10



Photo by T. Kevin Walker

John Artis, left, who was charged with murder with Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, signs an autograph for a fan.

## 'Forgotten man' speaks in Winston-Salem

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

One week after Rubin "Hurricane" Carter shared his triumphant story with students at a Greensboro College, the man who was wrongfully convicted of triple homicide along with Carter spoke in Winston-Salem.

John Artis was the guest speaker Saturday at the first annual Fatherhood Workshop at Union Baptist Church.

In 1966, two separate all-white juries convicted Artis and Carter of the gun slayings of three white Patterson, N.J., bar patrons.

Artis, who had been a college-bound standout athlete and altar boy, would spend the next 15 years in prison for a crime that a federal judge would later rule he did not commit.

Artis' tedious journey to exoneration is depicted in the Academy Award-nominated film "The Hurricane," though the movie

focuses on him just briefly.

Carter, a boxing champion before his imprisonment, has received much of the attention since being set free and since the movie was released late last year. Carter reportedly makes hundreds of thousands of dollars per speaking engagement. His speech last week at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro drew more than 3,000 people. By contrast, Artis spoke to a crowd of less than 100.

See Artis on A10

## n's Mark suits

ER AND JERI YOUNG

Mark chain announced Tuesday that settled discrimination complaints had filed suit against the company. has been dogged by allegations of a year now. Those allegations came year when the U.S. Justice Department against the chain, claiming, among Adam's Mark charged blacks higher less desirable rooms.

company says he hopes the settle- everyone is welcome at the chain's 21

is looking forward to moving ahead company better, now that this law-

See Adam's Mark on A10

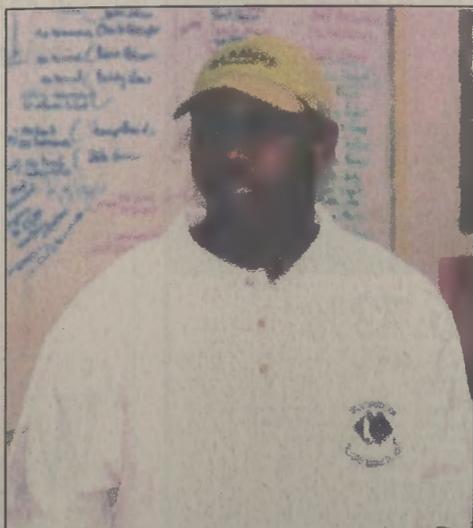


Photo by T. Kevin Walker

Roger Turner walks through the halls of VisionWork Youth Services.

## Supporters stand behind LIFT

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

Roger Turner never thought he'd be trying to keep young minds on the straight and narrow. But it's exactly what he does Mondays through Fridays at the Rowan County office of VisionWork Youth Services.

Turner is quite familiar with VisionWork. He was a student in the program for delinquent youths several years ago when it still accepted high school students.

Turner admits that it was not easy sailing for him at traditional schools; he often had trouble with the stringent instruction and rules.

Turner left VisionWork for LIFT Academy, a charter school that also has its share of at-risk students. The transition was smooth, he said.

Now a senior at LIFT, Turner credits the school for changing his attitude about learning and his outlook.

"I've matured," Turner said earlier this week. "I used to have a terrible temper. Some of the other

students looked up to me because I used to be in the same situation as they are in."

What worries Turner most these days is that his beloved LIFT may not have a chance to work its magic on many of his peers.

The school is in the middle of a well publicized fight with the State Board of Education to keep its doors open, a battle that is now being duked out in a Forsyth County Superior courtroom. Last week, state and LIFT officials wrapped up the oral portion of a hearing in which LIFT is seeking an injunction to keep its doors open.

LIFT is fighting the revocation of its charter by the state board last December. If the school loses its charter, it would be barred from receiving hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in public money. Without the money, it may be virtually impossible for the school to remain open. The school's main contention is that it was denied due process in the revocation process.

The state says it revoked the charter because the

See LIFT on A8