

SPORTS WEEK

...es leaving
...arver?
.....
Bowl champ
... local visit



See A2



See B1



See A4



See C1

COMMUNITY

Census Road Show
races through city

Gov. Hunt visits
local school

WINSTON-SALEM GREENSBORO HIGH POINT

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Choice for African American News

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2000



Photos by Kevin Walker

...s off her "Dream Book" at a graduation ceremony sponsored by the Housing
...as one of more than four dozen who completed a course on positive thinking.

Program teaches residents 'to fly'

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

A lot of graduates would find it totally unacceptable if a printing error prevented them from receiving their diplomas on graduation day. But when you're graduating from a program that teaches optimism, you accept the fact that often obstacles arise, be it flawed diplomas, financial problems or job layoffs.

More than 60 public housing residents graduated from the Positive Perception Programming workshop Saturday. They received generous applause from the crowd that gathered at Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center for the event and congratulatory handshakes from city housing authority officials, but not their certificates of achievement, which should arrive in the mail by the end of this week.

Positive Perception Programming teaches individuals how to deal with change and develop and

maintain a positive outlook on life. The sessions were led by Mind Development Institute (MDI), a private consulting and training firm that has worked with several housing authorities around the country.

The program was part of the housing authority's Family Self-Sufficiency Program, which also includes seminars on such things as home ownership and finances.

Much of the self-sufficiency program is funded through Hope VI, an initiative by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to improve the look of public housing and to improve the quality of life for people living there.

"There is no other program like Hope VI," said J. Reid Lawrence, executive director of the housing authority. "Hope VI gives you all these opportunities. It's up to the residents to take advantage of



J. Reid Lawrence, executive director of the city's Housing Authority, congratulates the graduates and gives them a pep talk.

See Graduates on A2

'Progressive' Methodists vow to fight racism, status quo

...n representatives
...o make progress

the church where parishioners had to struggle to cram into the sanctuary. The narrator summed up the theme of the video, and in many ways the theme of the annual meeting, in a few short words: "It's not your parents' Methodist church anymore."

Many members of the group called the four-day meeting one of the most progressive gatherings to date. By the time the event ended Saturday, topics like abuse in teen-age relationships, cyber space and economic empowerment for African Americans had been covered.

Last Friday the hierarchy of Black Methodists for Church Renewal stepped into a controversial local issue when it passed a resolution condemning the city-county school system's redistricting plan, which replaced cross-town busing with a school choice plan.

The choice plan has led to the deterioration of racial integration at many of the system's

See Methodist on A2



From right - Revs. James Ferree, McCallister Hollins, Carlton Eversley, Donald Jenkins, Julius Del Pino and Johnathan Keaton joined other pastors at a news conference to announce a resolution condemning the local school system's redistricting plan.



The Rev. Donald Jenkins of St. Paul United Methodist Church has a laugh with members of his choir, minutes before the choir sang at the closing ceremony of an annual meeting for black Methodists.

BMCR: School plan against the 'Gospel'

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR), a sub-group of the 3.2 million-member United Methodist Church, has joined the 3.6 million-member Presbyterian Church (USA) in criticizing the city-county school system's redistricting plan.

The black Methodists organization passed a resolution at its annual meeting here last week supporting the efforts of groups that are fighting to end the redistricting, which began to replace cross-town busing with a school choice plan in 1995. The redistricting plan has led to many schools becoming segregated.

"This issue is not only an issue locally, but one of national concern as well," said the Rev. Carlton Eversley, pastor of Dellabrook Presbyterian Church in Winston-Salem.

Eversley, who also chairs the local NAACP's Education Caucus, has been the leading voice

of opposition to redistricting. He got the Presbyterian Church (USA) to pass a similar resolution last July.

The Methodist resolution was introduced by the Rev. Donald Jenkins of St. Paul United Methodist Church of Winston-Salem.

Eversley says the Methodists' support gives the NAACP momentum as it moves forward with a planned lawsuit against the school system. Among other things, the lawsuit will charge that redistricting has been to the detriment of many black children in the system.

Officials with Black Methodists for Church Renewal said they will take the issue to the annual United Methodist meeting this May in Cleveland.

Whether the United Methodists will contribute financially to the lawsuit is yet to be determined. Bishop Jonathan D. Keaton, one of the

See Resolution on A5

home park
to pay \$60,000
discrimination case

a mobile home park in Alamance
pay more than \$60,000 in damages
last week for allegedly refusing
homes and rental lots to African
son a home because of their race
person a share of the American
er C. Holton, the U.S. attorney
istrict of North Carolina. "This
s the importance of vigorous
Fair Housing Act."
he Department of Justice, a com-
U.S. District Court in Greens-

See Mobile home on A4

City hosts Chi Eta Phi meeting

BY FELECIA P. McMILLAN
COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

More than 300 nurses from seven states attended the 47th annual Southeast Regional Conference here last week. The local Chi Chi chapter, chartered Sept. 23, 1978, at Emmanuel Baptist Church, hosted the three-day conference at the Adam's Mark Winston Plaza Hotel March 23-26. Attendees came from places as close as South Carolina and as far as the Virgin Islands.

Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority Inc. is an international organization of registered nurses and nursing students. Nationwide there are 79 chapters. The two-fold purpose of the organization is to elevate the nursing practice and to increase interest in the field.

Elleton "Mickey" McCullough, RN, MSN, coordinated the conference.

Employed at the Forsyth Medical Center at the Women's Center, she is serving her second term as director of the Southeast, the largest of the regions. "My job is to galvanize the chapters and aim them through their projects in the coming year. My goal is to make them more visible to the community and to help aspiring leaders to move forward," McCullough said.

Robbie Irvin is the president of the local Chi Chi Chapter. Among the many community service activities the chapter is involved in are encouraging continuing education and giving awards annually through local and national scholarships to nursing students. The featured speaker for the Anita K. Bass Scholarship Luncheon on Saturday was Dr. Mary T. Perkins, RN, director of nursing of the Brenner Children's Hospital, a subsidiary of N.C. Baptist Hospitals Inc.

See Nurses on A9



Photo by Felecia McMillan

Two members of the Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority talk in the lobby of the Adam's Mark Winston Plaza Hotel. About 300 members of the group were in town last week for the Southeast Conference.