

SPORTS WEEK

Rams take football title

Writers have massive start



See A2



See B1



See A11



See C1

COMMUNITY

A farewell to star Helen Martin

DJ Shilynne Cole wins over fans

WINSTON-SALEM GREENSBORO HIGH POINT

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 nday as they gave the plan

voted 7-1 to approve a rede-
 velopment plan for the
 area of Liberty Street
 and Patterson Avenue on
 the outskirts of down-
 town. The board's
 endorsement will make
 the revitalization effort
 eligible to receive certain
 types of state and federal
 funding. The redevelop-
 ment effort is projected
 to cost between \$16 mil-
 lion to \$17 million.

tterson plan is being spear-
 headed by Goler Community Develop-
 ment, which was formed by Goler
 Zion Church in response to
 development interest in the area.
 The heart of the area being
 plan.

See Goler on A5



Photo by Cheris Hodges

Erica Johnson chose to take a glitzy approach to styling her model's hair at a hairstyling contest earlier this week. Johnson fashioned the back with black feathers.

Turning heads

BY CHERIS HODGES
 THE CHRONICLE

Cosmetology and barber school students from across the state got a chance to put their knowledge to work in a competition at the N.C. State Beauticians and Cosmetologists Association Inc.'s 61st annual state convention.

The competition was just one of the many benefits students receive from attending the convention, said Reba Kennedy, director of student competition for the group.

"It gives them a chance to build their confidence level up," she said.

Kennedy added that competition is a major

See Hair stylist on A9

'Where's Mike?' some locals ask

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
 THE CHRONICLE

By the time the May 2 primaries roll around, Forsyth County will have been well-treaded by candidates seeking the state's highest offices.

But in local Democratic circles, one gubernatorial candidate's low profile here during the primary season has become an intriguing sidebar to this year's election saga.

The number of events Attorney General Mike Easley has attended in Forsyth County varies from one to six, depending on whom you ask.

Easley's closest competitor, Lt. Gov. Dennis Wicker, has become a fixture here, making at least four non-fund-raising appearances within the last two months.

Most recently, Wicker addressed a small crowd at the county's Democratic Convention Saturday at the Sawtooth Building. Easley was a no-show, although he was invited to speak.

A top elected Democrat on hand for the convention said Easley's absence in the county has caused quite a bit of speculation among local party faithful.

"I've heard many reasons why he hasn't been in Forsyth County a lot," said the official, who asked not to be identified.

Some have speculated that Easley may feel that Forsyth County is unfriendly territory because Wicker seemingly enjoys a great deal of support here, especially among politically-prominent African Americans.

Among those Wicker's camp counts as allies are former legislator and treasurer of the county's Democratic Party Annie Brown Kennedy and Alderman Fred Terry, who serves as chair of the local party's resolutions and platforms committee.

Others say Easley's fund-raising endeavors have been more vigorous here than his public appearances.



Easley

See Easley on A10

Speaker: Youths shouldn't be scapegoated

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speech, Ayinde Jean-Baptiste, a fiery 17-year-old orator who was one of the highlights of the Million Man March, talked the crowd at the NAACP's 24th annual Freedom Fund Gala into moments of deep reflection and raucous applause. Most of Jean-Baptiste's words were tailor-made for the theme of this year's gala - "Through the eyes of our youth: race, culture, humanity."

But Jean-Baptiste, who is a freshman at Harvard University, did part from the theme long enough to talk about the ongoing debate in South Carolina over the Confederate flag.

"We as black people cannot (stand for) the flying of the Confederate flag on any public property," he said as members of the audience applauded. "The only place we want to see this flag is in a museum."

Jean-Baptiste called on adults to help young people from straying down the road of crime and underachievement.

Oftentimes, he said, young people are unfairly blamed for the negative predicaments many of them find themselves in.

"We should not be scapegoated," Jean-Baptiste said. "We cannot solely fault youths who (are) out of control. Somebody failed to teach them control."

Jean-Baptiste credited his family for his success over the years. He tested above high school levels at the age of 6 in many courses and has taken his inspirational messages onto talk shows like "Oprah" and the "Today Show." He has also shared the podium with such luminaries as President Bill Clinton, Minister Louis Farrakhan and the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

Jean-Baptiste also attended the famous preparatory school founded by Marva Collins in Detroit. He borrowed a quote from Collins during his speech: "Students don't fail," he said. "Teachers do."

For young people who do not

have a strong family presence, the village must step in and become surrogate family members, Jean-Baptiste said.

"If they don't have the structure they need. It's up to us to be the cousins, the uncles, the aunts...," he said.

Jean-Baptiste joked to the crowd that if he were to talk about all the issues that were on his mind, then his speech would last a very long time. He did, however, manage to touch several topics not directly related to his overall focus. He talked briefly about the destruction of the rain forest, depletion of the ozone layer and about a prison work force that is thriving because of black male labor.

He called for an end to the practice of prisoners producing products for multimillion dollar companies and reaping no benefits from work, a practice that some have likened to slavery.

"We must raise our voices

See Speaker on A10



Photo by Kevin Walker

Harvard University student and renowned speaker Ayinde Jean-Baptiste signs autographs after his speech at last week's NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet.



Photo by Paul Collins

Wake Forest freshman, helps Da'Shawn Wade with Best Choice Center.

WFU students volunteer at agencies

BY PAUL COLLINS
 THE CHRONICLE

Nearly 250 students from Wake Forest University went into the Winston-Salem community last Thursday to volunteer at 25 local agencies from 3 until 5 p.m. Visitors did everything from planting flowers at Samaritan Ministries to tutoring children at the Best Choice Center.

Dorothy Graham-Wheeler, the executive director of the Best Choice Center, said she assigned about 10 volunteers from Wake Forest to various classes to work with the teachers. "It's supposed to be a community service for them," Graham-Wheeler said of the volunteers. "It's definitely a community service for us because extra volunteers. If we get one volunteer to read to a child for 20

minutes, that's really a great thing....I wish more (college students) would follow that lead."

Best Choice Center is "a drug prevention, drug education center for children ... grades K through nine," Graham-Wheeler said. "It ... focuses on education. We assist kids with their academics, basic learning skills, cultural enrichment, prevention for drugs, sex education....Our goal is to keep as many kids as we can out of the crime scene, off drugs, to make sure they do not get so dysfunctional that they drop out of school."

Beth Cauble, a freshman at Wake Forest from Knoxville, Tenn., was helping Da'Shawn Wade, a 9-year-old third-grader, with multiplication. At one point, Cauble grouped colored blocks together to review multiplication. "If I have two groups of three, how many do I have -

two times three?" she asked.

Da'Shawn responded "six."

Cauble repeated with different combinations of blocks.

Later she said, "What if you have a whole lot of blocks? What if you had 20 different piles out here? Instead of counting all the blocks - that would take a really long time - you can just count how many piles and multiply that by how many blocks are in each pile."

Da'Shawn nodded.

In an interview, Cauble said of Wake Forest's community service program: "I think it's good. I'm going to maybe look into coming out here."

She said she enjoys working with young people. She has not decided her major, and she has thought about becoming a teacher. "...My first-year seminar, last semester, was on education, and so I volunteered at

Independence, which is the alternative high school for Winston-Salem, and worked with kids probably closer to my own age."

At a different table in the same classroom, Vandy Vanderford, a WFU junior biology major from Charleston, W.Va., was working with second-grader Jerod Dixon on multiplication.

In an interview, Vanderford said he was doing community service for his fraternity as part of Greek Week.

The teacher, Fabio Almeida, said it's a combination second- and third-grade class. He said his students are learning fifth-grade math skills.

One method he uses to teach math skills is chess.

At another table in the classroom, a Wake Forest volunteer was tutoring children in reading.