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SPORTS WEEK

Baseball rolls on in 3-A playoffs
 ...
 ... makes waves
 NFL's Saints



See B1



See A3



See C7



See C1

COMMUNITY

Singer Sade scores big with new CD
 ...
 Program lauds new graduates

WINSTON-SALEM GREENSBORO HIGH POINT

Vol. XXVII No. 12

THE CHRONICLE

The Choice for African American News

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2000

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Doctors rave about Downtown Health Plaza

BY PAUL COLLINS
 THE CHRONICLE

Hundreds of people braved the cold temperatures Saturday to attend the open house of the \$9.8 million Downtown Health Plaza of Baptist Hospital at 1200 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. Activities included guided tours, musical entertainment, food and games for children.

More than a dozen people interviewed all raved about the new facility.

"I think it's going to be an asset to the community," said Joyce Henry.

In an interview, Michael L. Clements, director of the Downtown Health Plaza of Baptist Hospital, said, "This facility probably goes back over a hundred years, starting probably with Slater Hospital, which was 1890 something or other. That was the first

black hospital that was actually built for African Americans in this town.

"From there it evolved into a small complex in the back of city hospital where blacks received health care. RJR realized it wasn't sufficient, so RJR and Duke Endowment built the Kathryn Bitting Reynolds Memorial Hospital. That occurred in 1938. It continued until 1970 when the Reynolds Memorial Hospital was built, which lasted only for two years. It was decided that that hospital was not profitable and closed down, and as a result the facility was changed into the family health center... Three years later, in 1975, it went under Forsyth County government, became the Reynolds Health Center. It existed until Jan. 1, 1998, when it became the Reynolds Health Center under Baptist Hospital.

See Health center on A8

Board of Aldermen adopts resolution for moratorium on capital punishment

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
 THE CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem Board of Aldermen joined the city councils of Greensboro and Charlotte earlier this week when it passed a resolution calling for a moratorium on capital punishment.

The resolution does not call for an outright ban on the punishment, but simply urges state officials to halt the practice until it can be reviewed for what many call serious flaws in the system.

Alderman Nelson Malloy introduced the resolution two weeks ago only to have it delayed by Alderman Steve Whiton, who wanted Alderman Vernon Robinson to be present when the issue was discussed. Robinson was out of the state at the time.

Whiton and Robinson were the main hurdles for the resolution's passage; they along with Alderman Robert Northington voted against the resolution.

Robinson linked the growing movement to halt capital punishment to a left-wing, liberal attempt to embrace criminals while slighting law enforcement officers and the criminal justice system.

"The criminals lobby...continues to hold up Mumia (Abu-Jamal), Gary Graham and Darryl Hunt as saints, martyrs and role models and treats Clarence Thomas like a pariah, not because he killed anybody but because of policy differences," Robinson said.

Alderman Vivian Burke said she was voting for the moratorium because the issue is of great concern to local residents.

Burke also said she was concerned that people without money, blacks and whites, are speedily herded through the criminal justice system like animals. That mentality, she said, has caused many not to receive fair treatment.

"Many people have been prosecuted wrongly," Burke said.



Robinson



Burke

See Aldermen on A8

Bingo for Turkeys

Photos by Kevin Walker

... Davis and an ... girl scan their ... for appropri- ... Below: Mabel ... aims her prize ... during a spirit- ... game.



Lucky winners take home turkeys from Sims Recreation Center

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
 THE CHRONICLE

Mable Walker did not expect to be yelling the word "bingo" last Friday evening. But that's exactly what she did after four of her lucky numbers were called during an innovative bingo competition at the Sims Recreation Center in Happy Hill Gardens.

"Thank God," Walker said after her win. "I can't believe this."

Walker's prize wasn't a cordless phone or a portable stereo.

Her prize was a portly turkey, one of the hottest commodities in the country this time of year.

Walker heard about Bingo for Turkeys earlier that day as she had lunch at her neighborhood community center in Belview. Walker wasn't even

going to attend, but she said she just felt lucky.

"Something told me I better go," Walker said with a big smile.

Today Walker said she'll most likely enjoy a Thanksgiving meal at a restaurant. She'll save the turkey for Christmas, when her family will visit from Ohio.

Bingo for Turkeys has become an annual highlight at the Sims Center, drawing city residents from Happy Hill and beyond.

Ben Piggott, director of the center, said in the beginning, the center simply gave out turkeys to people, without a catch. But Piggott said people in Happy Hill are proud and did not like the notion of receiving handouts.

See Bingo on A8

Expected FTCC official to retire



Rousseau

recalled last week.

More than 20 years later, Rousseau still keeps the folder in his desk drawer. Though he has held a number of

administrative positions in education since he received the folder, Rousseau said the folder is no way near thick.

See Rousseau on A9

No longer are they the students 'who will never amount to anything'

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
 THE CHRONICLE

Without the benefit of a high school diploma, Shelia Robinson was able to land a well-paying job at R.J. Reynolds with good benefits.

But that was more than 20 years ago. She has since left that job for health reasons and is possibly looking to go into another field. In the job market once again, Robinson has noticed that the times have changed.

"A person really did not need a high school education when I was coming up. Nowadays, you have to have a diploma to even be consid-

ered for a job.

With that in mind and a decades-old longing in her heart, Robinson enrolled in the GED (General Education Development) courses at Forsyth Technical Community College.

The results of her efforts paid off last week as she and hundreds of other GED and Adult High School students donned blue caps and gowns for commencement exercises.

"I never expected to be at this point," said the 47-year-old Robinson, whose two adult children watched from the audience as she graduated. "But it's something that I

See Graduation on A3



Photo by Kevin Walker

Identical twins Wendy and Mindy Adkins prepare to receive their GED certificates at Wake Forest University.