

SPORTSWEEK

Kappa Magic 16s take state title

Clark will be missed by city, WSSU



See B1



See A2



See A11



See C1

COMMUNITY

Black Achievers lauded by Y

City native tearing up music charts

75 cent

WINSTON-SALEM GREENSBORO HIGH POINT

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CHRONICLE

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Graduate Sandra Green (right) gets hugs from her mother, Carol Elder (left), and grandmother, Mable Ladson (center).

FTCC grads overcome odds to receive degrees

BY PAUL COLLINS THE CHRONICLE

"I can hardly get around but I had to come see my granddaughter," said Mable Ladson Friday night moments before she and other family members entered Wait Chapel to see Sandra Green receive her associate's degree as a registered nurse. It was Forsyth Technical Community College's spring graduation.

"I'm just happy to be here tonight...just as happy as I can be," Ladson said.

Green's mother, Carol Elder, said, "I think God for this day. She (Green) said she wasn't, but I knew she was going to do it. It's been rough raising three boys...working hard, trying to go to school. I told her just hold on...she was going to make it. We're proud of her...She's a very hard worker...and willing to help anybody."

Geraldine Ladson, aunt of Green, said, "I'm a proud aunt."

Some of the other family members on hand to see Green graduate were: Leonard Green, Carol Elder, Pam Elder, Earl Ladson, Renee Ladson, Shameka, Geraldine Ladson, Shawn Elder, Meoshia Elder, Christina Elder, Tuwana Ladson.

Green said, "My future plans are to

continue working at Baptist Hospital and to further my education in medical law. I went through a lot to get here today. That's working with a family, going to school, everything, but I made it. I have three boys, and working full time. I'm a nursing assistant now at Baptist."

She plans to pursue a B.S.N. degree in medical law and hopes to eventually get a managerial position at the hospital.

Another graduate, Cassandra Wright, said, "My (associate's) degree is in early childhood...My plan is to try to get in the school system as a teacher. I plan on going to UNC-G to get my B.A. degree."

Asked to comment on any challenges she faced in earning her degree, Wright said, "I work for Head Start. I have a family of four that I have to help take care of, and also lost some pay trying to go to school and work also. But it...was really worth it."

She said she was very excited about graduating. She was expecting about 15 friends and relatives to attend graduation. "My husband is here. My mother is here from Fort Lauderdale, Florida. My son is here from the Navy. My two younger sons are also here, and a host of friends and re-

See FTCC on A2

Masons from around the world meet in city



Grand Masters Marvin Chambers and Deary "Mickey" Vaughn both worked together during this annual event in Winston-Salem.

BY CORTNEY L. HILL THE CHRONICLE

With more than 100 years of Masonry in the United States, Masons and the Order of the Eastern Stars from all over the nation held their 53rd Conference of Grand Chapters at the Adam's Mark

Hotel May 8-12.

Every year, this annual event is held at a different city and this year's host city was Winston-Salem. With various meetings, luncheons and events being held in the hotel, the organization still had time to reflect on its mission, which is to increase awareness of many issues that face African Americans today.

Grand Masters Marvin Chambers of North Carolina and Deary "Mickey" Vaughn of Oklahoma were present at the conference. Vaughn served as president of the Conference of Grand Masters and expounded on the purpose of the event. "These conferences are held to mainly make plans and formulate ideas to further our organization. Our prime purpose is to better all people and focus on education for the young people."

Chambers explained that the Masons is not a religious organization but is based on religious principles. "What makes our organization so unique is that we are a worldwide organization," said Chambers. "We have members in Western Europe, Africa, Japan and any other place you can think of. We are the only Masonic organization to accept all races and cultures."

Some future plans that the charitable, non-profit organization is working on are: increasing the awareness of the importance of wearing a seat belt; bringing the closeness back within minority

See Masons on A11

....Depart to Serve

Record class told to learn the game of life

BY T. KEVIN WALKER THE CHRONICLE

"We're ready. We're ready," chanted a throng of energized young people Saturday morning as they prepared to take the most important steps of their lives.

The opening notes of "Pomp and Circumstance" halted the students' chant and sent them back into formation. They then marched out onto the floor of Joel Coliseum. Their black caps and gowns made for an awesome sight for the thousands that cheered from the stands. The graduates' families and friends called their names as they moved. In response, some graduates waved or smiled; others posed for pictures or tried to understand the words that were being screamed by loved ones many feet away.

Winston-Salem State University's 109th commencement had all the trappings of any other ceremony - a lack of dry eyes; hope and promise in the eyes of the graduates and an endless stream of words of encouragement.

But the school's rich history and



Graduate Hope Wilkins looks up at family members as she walks into Joel Coliseum for Winston-Salem State's commencement.

promising future served as important backdrops for this commencement exercise. A day earlier, Harold Martin Sr. was named the school's 12th chan-

cellor, winning the job after serving as interim chancellor for more than a year. The school also graduated its largest

See WSSU grads on A5

Money is on Martin's mind

BY T. KEVIN WALKER THE CHRONICLE

Harold Martin first laughed when asked if he plans to retire from Winston-Salem State University. After a few seconds



Martin

of thought, he simply said, "We will work toward that end."

Judging from the many ovations Martin received Saturday as he oversaw his

second commencement exercise as chancellor, many people would like to see Martin at the helm for the next decade or so.

After 16 months serving as interim chancellor, Martin earned the permanent job May 11 after the board of governors for the University of North Carolina system approved him for the position after UNC system President Molly Broad nominated Martin.

"Sixteen months ago, Winston-Salem State University was a campus adrift, an institution eager for a strong leader to guide it through a critical time of change and transition," said Broad in a statement. "WSSU found that leader in Harold Martin, and under

his steady hand the campus already has experienced a remarkable transformation."

Martin's appointment came after a month-long search for a permanent chancellor for the university. Because of Martin's many accomplishments since coming to WSSU at the beginning of 2000, members of WSSU's board of trustees wanted to recommend Martin for the



Broad

permanent job without interviewing other candidates. The board decided to pursue a regular search process after Martin, himself, insisted upon it. A series of community meetings were held earlier this year to get public input into the search process. Trustees also interviewed prospective candidates just a few weeks ago.

See Martin on A5

Class of '46 relives memories

BY T. KEVIN WALKER THE CHRONICLE

A special section in Joel Coliseum was roped off for a stately-looking group of women and men at Winston-Salem State University's graduation, an ideal spot in the large arena that gave the group a bird's-eye view of the goings-on.

Most in the group sat quietly observing the event, occasionally whispering a few words into a neighbor's ear. Near the end of the ceremony they were recognized by the university's chancellor. After

hearing who the group was, the crowd and the graduates pelted them with applause and whistles.

The reception is indicative of the kind of respect and love that Winston-Salem State's Class of 1946 receives from the WSSU family, even from the newest members of the growing clan.

The class held its 55th reunion here last week, coinciding with the 109th commencement of its beloved WSSU. The close-knit class enjoyed many



Samuel Davis and Ester Fitts catch up on some of the good times.

See Class of '46 on A5