

SPORTSWEEK

Late Night Basketball gaining popularity

WSSU should have new AD soon



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See C1



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COMMUNITY

Local artist looking toward future

Church moves into new home

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THE CHRONICLE

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Festival's reaching out to blacks

BY MELDE RUTLEDGE
THE CHRONICLE

Chamber music is more common than many people may think, and in Winston-Salem, its mellow tunes will be celebrated next month.



Cue

Also called Baroque music, chamber music is becoming more popular among the ethnic masses. "E pluribus unum" ("From many, one") is a theme most

appropriate for the Foothills Chamber Music Festival's fifth anniversary, from Aug. 6-25.

"Music is a vital part of everybody's culture," said Rev. James Sloan of Goler Metropolitan AME Zion Church in East Winston. "One author said that music is the language of the soul."

Sloan's church will sponsor a free storytelling musical for preschoolers and elementary students on Aug. 9 as part of the three-week gala. Bob Moyer and Jennifer Lanier of the United Stage will re-create tales from Native American and African cultures with the help of Foothills musicians.

"Our church has always been a church that has had a keen interest in music and making sure that kids have an opportunity to share and participate."

He favors the festival because it gives a sense of community and provides a learning experience, especially for children.

"What better way to do that than through a music festival?"

Chamber music was originally written for small ensembles of up to 20 players - intended for home listening. The melody is comprised almost always of string instruments. For different effects, chamber orchestras don't use woodwinds or brass. Instead, they use different bow strokes (such as col legno, which is bouncing the stick on the strings).

Chamber orchestras also require strong players, because even one person making a mistake is likely to be heard. Each person must be able to hold his or her own and be able to know each other better than in a larger orchestra. In the movie "Titanic,"

See Chamber music on A2

Black farmers uneasy about merger

Group fears blacks and the poor will not reap better service if banking giants First Union and Wachovia become one

BY SHERIDAN HILL
THE CHRONICLE



Wagner International Photo
L.M. Baker (left), chairman and CEO of Wachovia Corp., and G. Kennedy Thompson, chairman and CEO of First Union Corp., announce merger plans in New York in April.

Black farmers are airing their concerns about the proposed \$14.4 billion merger between First Union and Wachovia, questioning the closing of branches in rural and low-income areas, and the availability of loans to African Americans living in rural areas.

Both the National Black Farmers Association and the Black Farmers and Agriculturalists Association have raised concerns.

Weeks ago, the 60,000-member National Black Farmers Association filed a complaint with the Federal Reserve Bank and protested in Wash-

ington to try to persuade Chairman Alan Greenspan to hold public hearings before any merger deal gains final regulatory approval.

"We want to see a commitment amending the terms of the merger application to increase lending to African-American farmers and small business owners," said John Boyd, president of the association.

On July 13, executives from First Union and Wachovia met with representatives from the Black Farmers and Agriculturalists Association, who said they were encouraged with the banks' response to their concerns. The group represents black farmers in 22 Southern states.

The meeting was called at the

banks' request and was held in Durham. "They met us halfway," said Gary Grant, president of the national Black Farmers and Agriculturalists.

Black Farmers and Agriculturalists asked that the new Wachovia establish state and regional offices with officers experienced in dealing with farmers.

Grant, who owns and operates a farm near Halifax, N.C., said, "We came with a list of concerns about what we feel needs to be addressed as this merger takes place. We want to know that the black community and other poor communities will be properly serviced in areas where banks will be closed, and we are concerned about lending policies for farmers, particu-

See Merger on A3

Salsa 101



Photo by Kevin Walker

Angel Rodriguez and his dance partner, Vanessa Rodriguez, lead a salsa and merengue lesson at the Lanterns of Hope Multicultural Festival, which was held last weekend at Salem Lake. The annual event celebrates the beauty and wonder of all the different races and cultures in Forsyth County. For more pictures of the event, see page A12.

Black businesses give \$7,500 to help 2001 theater festival

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Larry Leon Hamlin does not have a genie, but a wish he made recently did just come true.

Hamlin told The Chronicle last week that he wanted local blacks to show more support for his National Black Theatre Festival, which will begin Monday.

Hamlin complained that African Americans could do more to show that they appreciate the cultural significance of the one-of-a-kind festival, especially this festival season because Hamlin has struggled to find all the funds he needs to stage the week-long event.

Hamlin's words did not go unheard. The East Area Council, a wing of the Chamber of Commerce made up of African-American business owners, presented Hamlin with a donation of \$7,500 Monday to help cover the cost of this year's festival.

The money is the only funds that the NBTF will receive from any chamber group this festival season. Last year, the Greater Winston-Salem

See NBTF on A4



Mose Belton Brown presents Larry Leon Hamlin with a check for \$7,500 Monday morning.

The Sell

Superintendent tells Roundtable that bonds have a lot to offer to the black community

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

What a difference three months and the promise of a brand-spanking-new high school in East Winston have made.

When school system officials met with the Black Leadership Roundtable during a public forum in late March held by the grassroots advocacy group, they were trying to win support for a bond package that Forsyth County residents will vote up or down in November.

But many in the crowd that evening were not buying what school administrators were trying to sell, essentially asking school officials, "What have you done for us lately?" Schools Superintendent Don Martin's visit to a Roundtable meeting last week was much better received, now that the City-County School Board has decided to include plans for a new high school in a predominantly black community.

Early in the bond discussion, some School Board members argued that a new high school was not needed in the inner city because popula-



Schools Superintendent Don Martin speaks at a regular meeting of the Black Leadership Roundtable last week.

See Bonds on A3

Church bridging language barrier

Program teaches Spanish to English speakers, vice versa

BY MELDE RUTLEDGE
THE CHRONICLE

Leaving home to come to an unknown land can be an overwhelming experience, especially when there's a language barrier.

The simplest things, such as going to the bank or buying gas, can turn out to be the hardest of tasks.

To address this rising dilemma among the Hispanic community in Winston-Salem, Green Street United Methodist Church started a program to help them communicate.

The program is about a month old and is designed to assist His-

panics by teaching them an adequate amount of English, enough for everyday interaction among other English speakers. The program also teaches Spanish so that English speakers can interact better with Hispanics.

Every Sunday, the groups meet at the church from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

A usual session starts with a period of pronunciations and spellings. At the end of each session, the English and the Spanish groups meet with each other to discuss what they have learned.

"I don't even really care about

See Classes on A4



Photo by Melde Rutledge

Olivia Ferrelli teaches English to Spanish speakers.