

SPORTSWEEK

Yellow Jackets young, but talented
Jaguars talented at skilled positions



See B1



See A5



See A2



See C1

COMMUNITY

Back-to-school party is held
Southern rapper remembers roots

75 cents
18 120101 *****CAR-RT-LOT **C012
N C ROOM
FORSYTH CNTY PUB LIB
660 W 5TH ST # Q
WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-2755

WINSTON-SALEM GREENSBORO HIGH POINT

Vol. XXVII No. 50

THE CHRONICLE

The Choice for African-American News

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2001

For Reference
not to be taken
from this library

University unveils state-of-the-art dorm

\$26 million Aggie Suites will provide students with all the comforts of home and much more, say university officials

BY MELDE RUTLEDGE
THE CHRONICLE

GREENSBORO - As student enrollment at N.C. A&T State University steadily rises, the availability of campus housing is a concern.

With nearly 8,000 students enrolled at A&T for the fall semester, the new 200,000-square-foot Aggie Suites residence hall could not have come at a better time for those concerned about where they were going to stay during the school year.

The opening ceremony for the \$26 million project was held last Friday.

"What A&T has erected here has definitely extended Aggie pride to another level," said Gregory Drumwright, the student government president at A&T.

The residence hall is composed of private and semiprivate suites. The private suites have four bedrooms and a living room with two bathrooms. Semiprivate suites are more conventional, with two bedrooms and a bathroom with two showers. Four students share the suites.

Rooms are equipped with a refrigerator, microwave, Internet access and cable television.

The residence hall also features a computer lab, 24-hour desk

attendants, a surveillance camera system, on-site management, resident assistance, and a tennis and basketball court.

"One of the objectives for A&T is to set the standard by which other universities are measured," said Obrie Smith, the president of the N.C. A&T University Foundation. "Aggie Suites will now be added to that standard."

Chartered on March 9, 1946, the foundation supports A&T's educational mission through a variety of investments, such as Aggie Suites. These investments provide a reliable source of funds for current and future endow-

See A&T on A2



Photo by Melde Rutledge

A&T President James Renick, far left, and student body president Gregory Drumwright, second from left, help open Aggie Suites.

Forum tackles relevant subjects

Several civic groups, businesses will sponsor event that looks at state of blacks in county

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Organizers of a massive forum-style conference on Aug. 18 set out to create a one-stop meeting where locals could get easy-to-understand, relevant information on a variety of topics. With the agenda for Saturday's "The State of Black America: A Forsyth County Perspective" already laid out, those responsible for pulling it together say they have achieved what they have striven to do.

"It's real information," said Joycelyn Johnson, the main organizer of the event. "And it's not an advertisement; we are not trying to sell anything."

The conference has many goals. Among them are:

- To demonstrate the strengths within the black community.
To encourage family unity and share learning experiences.
To develop methods to implement strategies to eliminate disparities.
To identify causes and effects of economic and social problems in the community.

The forum is similar to ones held by a group of civic groups the last few years, but Johnson said this year everything has been expanded. Topics during the daylong event will range from wealth creation and education, to health and end-of-life issues. There also will be a special teen forum where local young people will have a chance to speak their minds.

"Too often we think we know what young people are going through...This is a chance for them to speak for themselves," Johnson said.

Organizers have tried to ease the burden for parents who want to attend. Child-care services will be

See Forum on A5

NAACP says chain will have no peace until there's justice

Two dozen Adam's Mark hotels sites of weekend demonstrations

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE



Alston

What started last month as words turned into old-fashioned civil rights action Saturday in Winston-Salem and nearly two dozen other cities.

The NAACP held demonstrations in front of Adam's Mark hotels from here to Houston, admonishing the luxury hotel chain through chants and with picket signs for what the civil rights group calls a systematic pattern of discriminating against African-American guests and employees.

"As some of our picket signs so adamantly say, the NAACP demands equality and hospitality. The NAACP demands respect for our youth, and when you dismiss our youth, Mr. Adam's Mark...you miss the mark," said Melvin "Skip" Alston, state president of the NAACP.

National NAACP President Kweisi Mfume announced last month during the organization's annual convention that the Adam's Mark had not made good on its commitment to settle a lawsuit brought against the chain by several African-American college students who claimed they were treated like second-class citizens at the Daytona Beach hotel during the 1999 Black College Reunion. The civil rights group first launched a boycott against the Adam's Mark soon after the alleged treatment took place.

The Justice Department also sued the chain after its investigation found that the Adam's Mark violated the Civil Rights Act. But the NAACP suspended its

See NAACP on A4

Together Again



Photo by Kevin Walker

The Jackson sisters greet their old neighbor Pearlina Peck at The Pond Reunion Saturday.

Annual Pond Reunion brings longtime neighbors back to historic community

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

The voices of more than 100 people filled the halls of Union Baptist Church Saturday with the poignant words of the old Negro spiritual "Look Where He's Brought Me From." Moved by the song's powerful message, many who sang it closed their eyes in spiritual meditation; others stood to their feet, throwing their arms into the air and gently swaying.

For the men and women who grew up in The Pond, the song has become a theme,

an anthem that mirrors the highs and lows of the historic community and reflects their belief of a better tomorrow.

The 11th Pond Reunion came and went with much fanfare at the church, which sits in the heart of the community that is today known by many different names.

But "back in the day," as many described that time, The Pond community stretched from Trade Street to Seventh Street and included much of the area known as Kimberly Park today.

Organizers began holding the reunion

in hopes of keeping The Pond legacy alive amid changing times and changing attitudes.

"We lost a neighborhood," said Barbara Carvana, one of the organizers of the event. "This used to be a strong, caring neighborhood. Now all black neighborhoods are just written off as ghettos. But we feel if the young people learn that this used to be a real neighborhood. Maybe that will help them feel better about where they live. Maybe that will help them change their

See Pond on A10



Mayor Jack Cavanagh announces his plans to seek a second term.

Photo by Kevin Walker

Mayor will paint 'opponent' as a puppet in bid for re-election

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

For months, Mayor Jack Cavanagh has existed under a Greta Garbo-like veil of secrecy, routinely sidestepping questions from the media about his intentions for the 2001 election.

Unmasked and already firing salvos at his likely opponent, Cavanagh announced last week - on the last day possible to file for city elections - that he will seek a second term.

Flanked by a few supporters, Cavanagh made the announcement from his City Hall South office. He said he will rely on the grassroots folks to help him maintain his title.

"It's time for the real citizens of Winston-Salem, the grassroots, to rise up," Cavanagh said.

He dived much of his statement with such language as he tried to separate his campaign from that of his likely opponent in November, Democrat Allen Joines.

Joines, a former deputy city manager with more than three decades of service to the city, heads the Winston-Salem Alliance, a Wachovia-supported business advocacy organization.

Cavanagh has been critical of Wachovia ever since news of its merger with First Union became public. The mayor has said that the bank, which will move its headquarters to Charlotte

as part of the merger, sold the city out in order to line the pockets of a few millionaires, namely Wachovia chief Bud Baker.

Joines' cozy relationship with the bank and Baker will be the source of much political fodder for Cavanagh. The mayor often referred to Joines but never used his name, instead calling him "my opponent."

"(Joines) walks around with a bunch of little strings all around him," Cavanagh said, reading from notes scribbled on a legal pad. "It's like watching a puppet show."

Cavanagh briefly interrupted the news conference to question Mike

See Mayor on A5