

Rams B-ball squad gearing up

Teen lives out dream at Panthers game



See B1



See A5



See C1

Local women see lives on stage

Fall colors expected to peak soon

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Photo by Courtney Gaillard

A nursing student checks the blood pressure of a WSTA user at the Transportation Center.

Students offer health checks to bus riders

Winston-Salem State expands its popular wellness program

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD
THE CHRONICLE

Free health screenings are now available to the community at the Downtown Transportation Center. Winston-Salem State University's Community Family Practice Wellness Center has teamed up with the Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA) to allow nursing students the chance to provide the public with some basic health services such as blood pressure screenings. The Community Family Practice Wellness Center, which opened in 1997, aims to promote the holistic health and primary care among low-income residents, including those in the city's public housing communities.



Barnes

WSTA used to have a parish nursing program on site at the Transportation Center providing the same type of services, but that program was canceled due to loss of funding. Art Barnes, WSTA general manager, said WSTA had been looking to once again offer some kind of health service to the general public.

"We believe the Transportation Center is an ideal place to provide services for the community because there are so many people that come through the center each day," said Barnes, who mentioned that between 10,000 and 11,000 people pass through the center each day.

The Wellness Center is part of WSSU's School of Health Sciences. School officials hope the program will assist residents with disease prevention and health promotion. The School of Health Sciences already offers clinics at Sunrise Towers, Piedmont Park, Sarah Austin Head Start and Azalea Terrace.

"Our whole purpose is to reach those people that otherwise don't get to a medical facility," said Rodger Melton, director of CFPWC. He added that the new partnership with WSTA will allow the nursing students to serve people



Melton

See WSTA on A10



Photo by Kevin Walker

Earline Parmon, left, shares a laugh with Denise Hartsfield and Larry Womble during an impromptu rally held by local Democrats outside of the Board of Elections last Thursday, the first day of early voting.

72nd House race gets ugly

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Neither Elizabeth Dole nor Erskine Bowles has a patent on negative campaign advertisements this election season.

Political showman Vernon Robinson, a Republican, recently rolled out his first two radio spots for his campaign for the 72nd state House District. The spots, which have been airing on WQMG 97.1 and WSJS 600 AM, take direct aim at his Democratic rival, Earline Parmon, for her voting record as a county commissioner and for her handling of LIFT Academy, a charter school she founded in the 1980s and headed until 2001 when the

state revoked the school's charter because of financial irregularities.

Robinson recruited Ansylene Mitchell, a former LIFT teacher, for the most controversial spot. In the ad Mitchell, who raised a stink in 1999 when she discovered that money was not being paid into her 403-B retirement account at LIFT, criticizes her former boss' handling of



Robinson

LIFT, saying that 16 teachers lost their jobs and 175 students were put on the streets as a result of the state closing LIFT. Mitchell also claims in the ad that more than \$10,000 was withheld from her paycheck at LIFT and implies that the money was used to pay for a new car for Parmon.

"I still don't know what she did with my money," Mitchell says in the ad. "Ms. Parmon was too busy driving around town in her new Lexus to answer my questions."

The ad ends with Mitchell, whose husband is a Robinson campaign volunteer, urging voters to choose Robinson. "If you care about integrity, if you

See 72nd on A10

Biggs looks to her base to reach out

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Judge Loretta Biggs is not used to having to sell herself to voters.

Here in Forsyth County, where she earned a reputation as a no-nonsense yet compassionate District Court judge, her record speaks for itself. Outside the county, however, Biggs is having to prove to people who are unfamiliar with her heroine status that she is worthy enough to remain on the N.C. Court of Appeals.

"The greatest part of the challenge is hoping you leave voters with enough information to make a decision," Biggs said of her statewide



Photo by Kevin Walker

Judge Loretta Biggs rides in the WSSU Homecoming Parade.

election campaign.

Biggs was appointed to the N.C. Court of Appeals in January 2001, becoming one of only four African-Americans on the 15-judge court. Judge Wanda Bryant, one of the court's other African-Americans, is

also running to keep her seat.

Biggs' appointment was one of the last acts of former Gov. Jim Hunt. Biggs joined the court after serving seven years as a District Court judge and another seven years as executive

See Biggs on A9



Here are a few of the photographs in "Corapeake," an exhibit currently on display at WFU's Hanes Gallery.

Life through art

'Corapeake' exhibit is not about racism; it's about humanity, photographer says

BY PAUL COLLINS
THE CHRONICLE

"Corapeake" is a multimedia exhibit documenting personal histories of the people of Corapeake, a tiny village in Gates County, N.C., that is about 10 miles from the Great Dismal Swamp. The exhibit, which opened Oct. 11 at

Wake Forest University's Charlotte and Philip Hanes Gallery, and the documentary film of the same name are not about racial prejudice; they are about growing up, work, churches, small-town living, a different time passing away, said photographer/producer/director Kendall Messick.

"I want them (viewers) to realize the preciousness of stories of our older people. There is a universality to these stories. It really does cross over race....My goal is to show that we are the same. It's about acceptance, seeing the humanity in all of us, and

See Corapeake on A5



Photo by Kevin Walker

Judge Roland Hayes hugs Denise Hartsfield at a political forum last week at United Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church. Hartsfield is trying to succeed Hayes on the District Court. Hayes said thank you and goodbye to supporters at the forum. He is retiring.

Native's essay in book by Smiley

Daughter of former alderwoman shares school integration stories for new book

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD
THE CHRONICLE

Dr. Virginia Banks-Bright hasn't been back to Needham B. Broughton High School in



Banks-Bright

Raleigh since she graduated in 1966. The memories of her experience at the

predominantly white high school during the height of the Civil Rights Movement are too painful.

Instead of attending her high school reunion, she shared her high school experience, which she says was "a day from hell," every day in "Keeping the Faith," a book

by famed talk-show host and social commentator Tavis Smiley. Smiley, included Banks-Bright's

personal narrative along with other life lessons from African-Americans, ordinary and famous, in this book, which was released last week.

Banks-Bright's experiences did not prevent her from achieving her dream of becoming a doctor.

Today, Banks-Bright, daughter of former Winston-Salem Alderwoman Virginia Newell, is the division director of infectious diseases at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh.

"I sort of felt that, obviously, for anybody who reads

See Essay on A4

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