



NFL camp slated for Winston

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Driving event raises money

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Group hopes to help jobless

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Wentz puts on Easter program

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THE CHRONICLE

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HAWES gets new board member

Lida Hayes-Calvert is a well-known local business owner

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Lida Hayes-Calvert was sworn in Tuesday as the newest member of the five-person Housing Authority of Winston-Salem Board of Commissioners. Mayor Allen Joines appointed Hayes-Calvert to take the place of Barbara White, who left the board last summer.

Hayes-Calvert is president of S&L Painting and Decorating Inc., which she started nearly two decades ago with a measly \$200. Hayes-Calvert's success in the male-dominated industry has earned her a slew of business awards, while her community service has earned her a reputation as a goal-oriented team player.

"I think the Housing Authority is doing great things, (and) she will bring her business skills to the table as the Housing Authority carries out these great projects," said Joines, who swore Hayes-Calvert in Tuesday during a ceremony in his office.

Hayes-Calvert's board affiliations include the Minority/Women Business Enterprise Board, the United Way and the city's Parks and Recreation Board.

She feels that her experience

See HAWES on A10

N.C. Dems set to pick nominee

Delayed primary forces a caucus

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD
THE CHRONICLE

Registered Democratic voters in North Carolina will have the chance to cast their vote for the Democratic presidential nominee this Saturday when the N.C. Democratic Party will hold a Presidential Preference Caucus. Senators John Kerry and John Edwards, Rep. Dennis

Kucinich, Rev. Al Sharpton and former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean will have their names listed on the ballot, even though Kerry has already secured enough votes to guarantee him the nomination.

The preference caucus is necessary because the state redistricting plan has been challenged, pushing the primary election, normally held in May, to July 20. The caucus, says Bernie Gaither, chair of the Forsyth Democratic Party, will allow North Carolina to be fully represented at

the Democratic National Convention, which will be held in Boston July 26-29. Gaither said without the Presidential Preference Caucus, North Carolina would not have a say in who the Democratic nominee would be, nor would the state be able to pick delegates to send to the national convention. Gaither is urging all registered voters to participate in the caucus, even though the caucus has come late in the election season.

"John Kerry already has enough votes to be the (Democratic) nominee; how-



Hairston

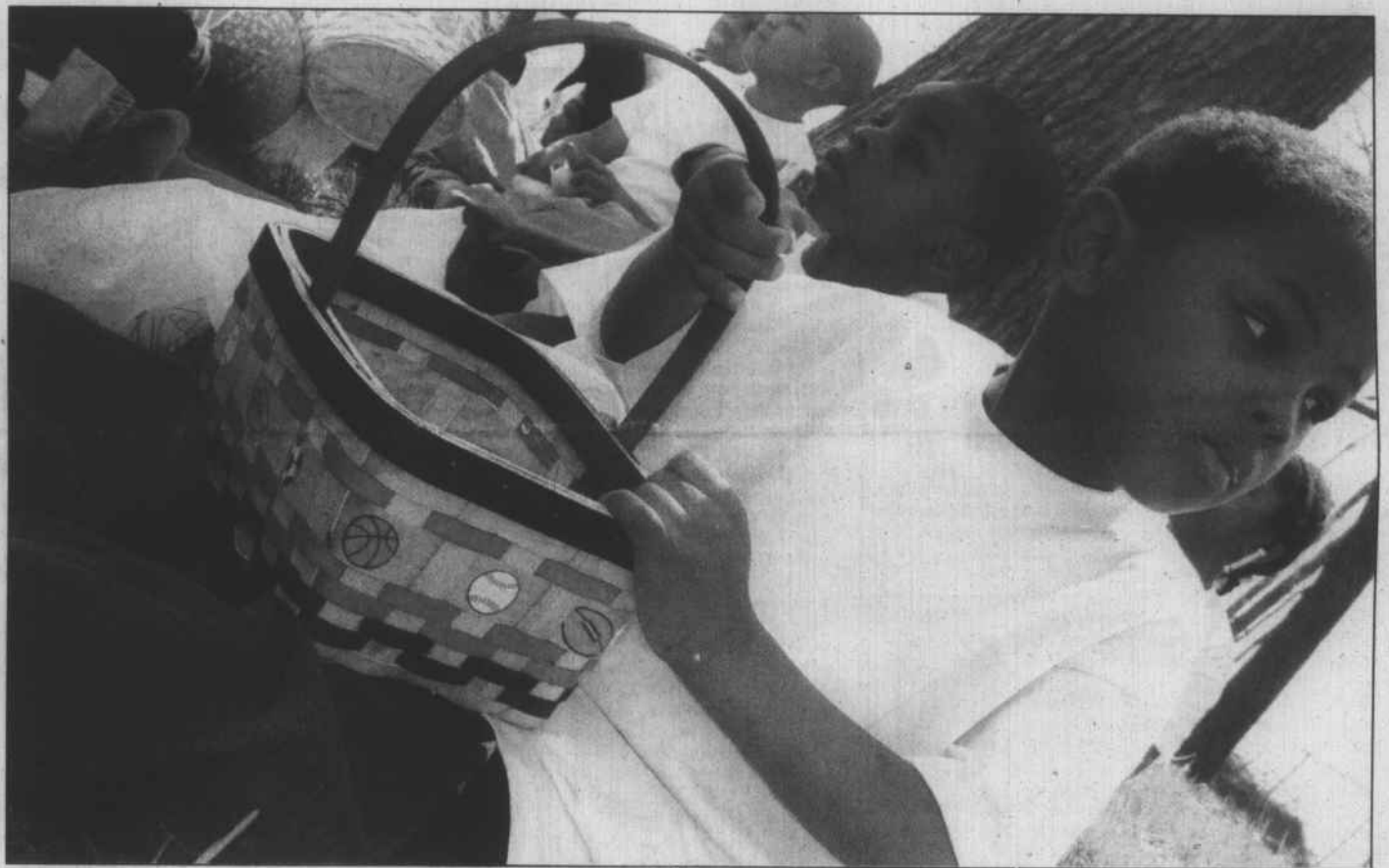
ever, it's important for us in North Carolina because our primary has been delayed so late that if we waited until the primary we wouldn't have a say-so at the next national convention," said Gaither.

Harold Hairston, who heads the local African-American Caucus, says black voter participation in the caucus this weekend will only strengthen blacks' presence in the Democratic Party.

"We're trying to show the Democratic Party how important black votes are and the

See CAUCUS on A10

All his eggs in one basket



Dozens of kids spent Good Friday at St. Paul United Methodist Church, enjoying everything from a puppet show to games and activities. The little ones also hunted for eggs and candy. This little boy watches others take part in the Easter egg hunt after collecting his share of goodies.

Photo by Kevin Walker

Church reaches out in Ogburn Station

Messiah's House plans to move into old grocery store

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

The old Paragon grocery store site off of Old Rural Hall Road saw more action Saturday than it had seen since the store closed its doors more than five years ago. Hundreds came to the Messiah's House's first-ever Bless Fest, drawn by free food, games and even a petting zoo featuring snakes, llamas and other four-legged creatures.

Messiah's House members say the event is a sign of what is to come for both the church and the Ogburn Station community. Messiah's House, a three-year-old church with about 300 members, plans to make the former Paragon site its new worship center in the next few years. The church wants to convert its cur-

See MESSIAH on A4



Roy Hooker shows little Deja Dobson some of his animals during the Bless Fest. A petting zoo was one of many attractions at the weekend event.

Photo by Kevin Walker

Moms to return to D.C. in May

Organization wants a new assault weapons ban

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

In 1999, Donna Dees-Thomases was as far from a gun control activist as one could get. As a publicist for the "Late Show with David Letterman," her days were filled with promoting the staples of the show such as Stupid Pet Tricks and Top-10 lists. Then came Aug. 10, 1999, and a violent incident at a Jewish Community Center in Los Angeles, in which a deranged gunman opened fire on children while they were playing.

The incident was thousands

of miles away from Dees-Thomases, who lives in New York, but yet it was too close to home. Her children attended a Jewish Community Center in New Jersey at the time. She feared that if it happened in California, it could happen anywhere.

"That was my first real wake-up call about gun violence in this country," she said. Dees-Thomases began to communicate - mainly by computer - with other mostly white, middle-class mothers about the issue of gun



Dees-Thomases

See MOMS on A9

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