



Demons ready for coming season

- See Page B1



CHANGE finds voting problems

- See Page A5



Road trip comes to G'boro

- See Page A4



Show features art of inmates

- See Page C1

THE CHRONICLE

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Photos by Kevin Walker

Bro. Harvey Drummer (from left), Leroy Nelson, Bro. Cloys Cecil and Frank Dulin stand at the door of the new facility on Lansing Drive.

System adds five new black principals

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Five new African-American principals will welcome students on Monday when the school system begins its 2004/2005 academic year.

There were a number of principal appointments over the summer. With the new appointments, there are 24 African-American principals in the school system, compared with 43 white principals and one Hispanic.



Caldwell

There are also more female principals (40) than males (28), according to numbers from the school system.



McKoy

The latest African-American principal to be named is Carol Montague, who will try to fill Dan Piggott's big shoes at Carver High School. Piggott is leaving Carver to take over the new Atkins High School when it opens next year. Montague is currently the principal at Warren County High School, where she has held that position since 1998. She also served as a school principal and assistant principal in Maryland before coming to North Carolina.

See Principals on A4

Church set to open seniors facility

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

The Carver Road Church of Christ has a proven track record of taking dreams and sculpting them into realities.

In the early 1980s, the church began construction of its current edifice, a sprawling building at Carver School Road and Lansing Drive. Today, the church shares the area with Forsyth Technical Community College's Woodruff Center, a branch of the Forsyth County Library and a number of new home developments. That was not the case two decades ago when the church opened. Back then, the church was the only new construction the area had seen in some time.

"We were trailblazers," said Bro. Cloys Cecil, the church's former pastor. "The others came behind us."

In the early 1990s, the church opened Quality Education Institute on land adjacent

to the church. The institute is a private school that serves grades K-5. The church later added Quality Education Academy, a charter school for middle school students.

Sunday, Carver Road Church of Christ will formally unveil its latest achievement, Quality Independent Living, a \$1.9 million 42-unit living complex for seniors on Lansing Drive. Construction began on the facility last year. On Sunday, the church will host a dedication for the building, giving local people a chance to see what the facility has to offer.

"We wanted to build a good facility in an area that would be attractive," said Leroy Nelson, the facility's executive director. The facility has both one- and two-bedroom units, but the two-bedroom apartments have already been leased, Nelson said. There are many one-bedroom units still available. The church is making a push to let

See Church on A9



The new facility has 42 units and cost \$1.9 million.

Group circulating petition for school's name change

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD
THE CHRONICLE

The push to rename Independence High School after Larry Fields, who was principal of Latham Elementary School, continues with members of the community circulating a petition around the city to generate support for the school to bear his name. Lynne Gwyn-Smith hopes that come this fall the school will be called the Dr. Larry D. Fields Learning Academy.

Gwyn-Smith is a former Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools employee and member of the Community Advisory Board of Alternative Education, which is spearheading the petition. She says the group has already collected

around 200 signatures on the petition and hopes to collect as many as possible. The Community Advisory Board for Alternative Education plans to present the petition to the school board when it votes on the name change.



Gwyn-Smith

"He was a very, very, very awesome educator. The man was full of all kinds of information. He was just outstanding," said Gwyn-Smith. (The Community Advisory Board) feels it's the most appropriate name for the school.

A picture and biography of the late educator accompanies the petition. Fields is hailed as a champion of underdog students, many of whom were sent to the alternative high school. Test scores drastically

improved at Latham Elementary while Latham was at the helm of the school. Those who knew and worked with him said he had a special gift for troubled students.

"Dr. Fields was a specialist in alternative learning. He had an alternative way of teaching and teaching his teachers to teach," said Gwyn-Smith, who says many faculty and staff at Fields' old school have filled several pages of the petition with their names.

The Community Advisory Board of Alternative Education consists of former educators, clergy, doctors and other concerned citizens in the community formed in May after Independence was closed to address the alternative education programs in the school district. Independence High will reopen this fall, after being shut down by Superintendent Don Martin last year.

See Petition on A10

Dog-eat-dog



Photo by Kevin Walker

Cheryl Clark has found a way to stand out in the dog-eat-dog world of downtown hot-dog vendors. Clark is hard to miss in her trademark hot-dog hat. She is also proud that her Hawbouts Hot-dog stand along Fourth Street is the only stand downtown that sells turkey hot dogs.



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