



**North is ready to rumble this season**

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**Food banks will get state grants**

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**Board keeping eye on school**

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**Family celebrates 50th reunion**

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# THE CHRONICLE

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**Despite**

## workshop draws few

## Academy opens its doors for first time

*High school model combines talents of WSSU, school system*



Renowned motivational speaker Les Brown speaks at the Anderson Center last week.

*Event draws less than 100 paid registrants*

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

According to Les Brown, there was a time in this country when a hardworking American could work 40 hours a week for 40 years and retire on 40 percent of his or her salary. Those days have come and gone, Brown told a room of willing ears last Friday during a business conference at the Anderson Center. These days, Brown said, people want to make more money as they grow older in order to ensure that they will never be financial burdens to their families.

Brown has built a career and made himself a ton of money by inspiring people to fulfill their personal and business dreams. His motivational books have sold tens of thousands, and the asking price for his public appearances can run as high as \$80,000. Brown is 60 but does not look a day over 45. He partly credits making healthy lifestyle

See Conference on A4

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD  
THE CHRONICLE

More than 100 freshmen, including Courtney Duggins, started school at the Winston-Salem Preparatory Academy this past Monday. This Class of 2008 will be the first to graduate from the new college prep school, and Duggins is excited about making history.

Already the 14-year-old has her sights set on becoming senior class valedictorian four years from now.

"I wasn't expecting (the first day) to go this well because it's the first day, but it has," said Duggins. "It's really cool to be the first (class) to graduate."

The Winston-Salem Preparatory Academy is one of two schools in the nation to participate in a school redesign project that aims to transform traditional high schools into college prep schools. The second school, located in Baton Rouge, La., will open this week. Winston-Salem State University and Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools will join forces to operate the program housed in Atkins Middle School. The school is being funded by grants from the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Principal Dennis Walker says the first day of school got off to a good start despite some minor transportation issues. Students, faculty and staff, he says, gathered in a circle on the



Duggins

## Students get last bit of summer fun

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

These days, being prepared for school means more than getting a good night's sleep and a hearty breakfast. Students from grades K-12 get extensive lists in the mail even before school starts, detailing the supplies that teachers require, which range from everything from calculators to three-ring binders.

Linda Vinson found that out the hard way when her grandchildren told her of the endless list of notebooks, pens, folders that they needed.

"The teachers really want them prepared when they come," she said, "and it is important that they are ready to do a good job when they walk into school."

On Saturday - two days before summer ended and school began for local students - Vinson and hundreds of other parents, grandparents and guardians got a little help from Mt. Olive Baptist Church. For the 13th straight year, the church handed out

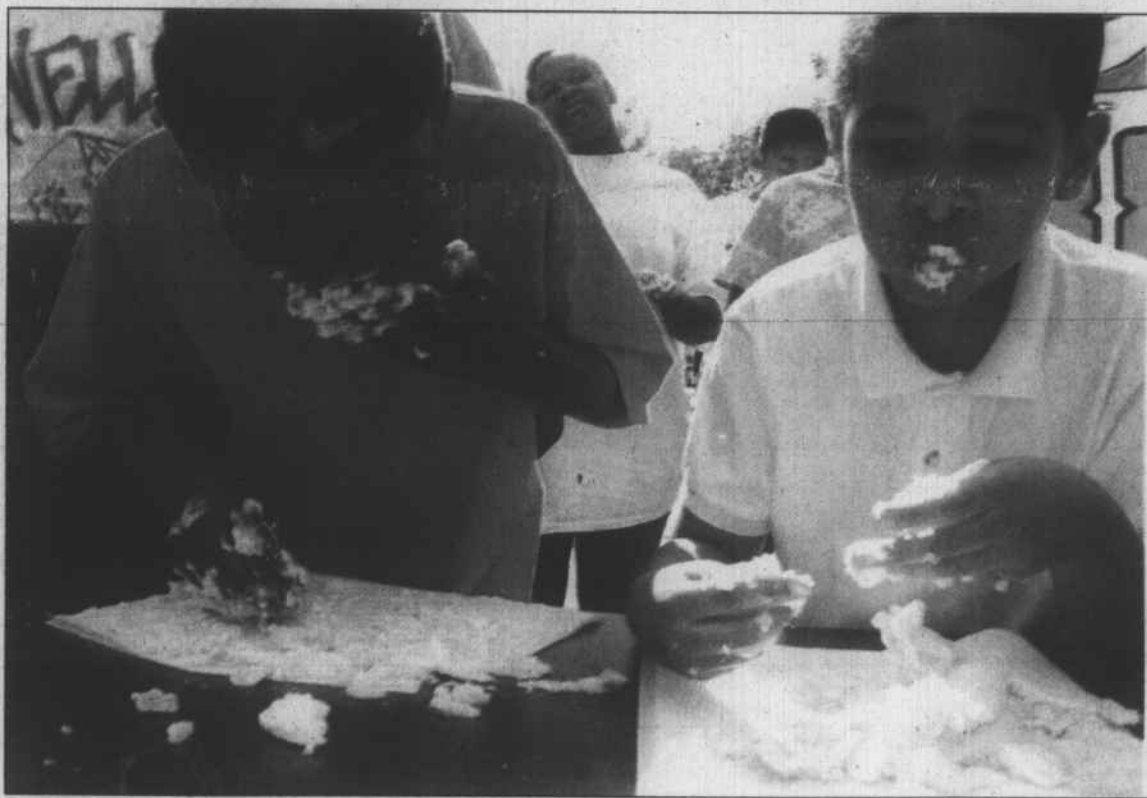


Photo by Kevin Walker

See Mt. Olive on A10 Randy Morrison, left, and Bradley Eccles compete in a pie-eating contest. Several rounds of the contest were held Saturday.

### Namesakes



Photo by Kevin Walker  
Chronicle reporter Courtney Gaillard spent last Thursday as a volunteer Big Sister to 8-year-old Courtnie Holmes as part of a Big Brothers Big Sisters program. Here, Gaillard goes through last Thursday's Chronicle as Holmes looks on. See the story on the event on page A5 of this issue.

## TAKING IT TO THE STREETS

*Voting Rights Coalition sets high registration goal*

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

A team of volunteers with the Winston-Salem Voting Rights Coalition spent part of last week scouring the downtown transportation center looking for people who are not registered to vote. The volunteers did not have to look hard.

After spending just two hours at the city bus terminal, the volunteers had collected a whopping 60 voter registration forms. They had handed out even more blank forms to bus riders who wanted to sign up friends and relatives.

Spearheading the Winston-Salem NAACP's Political Action Committee, the coalition is made up of people from several organizations, including the Black Leadership Roundtable, Pan-Hellenic Council and the Ministers Conference.

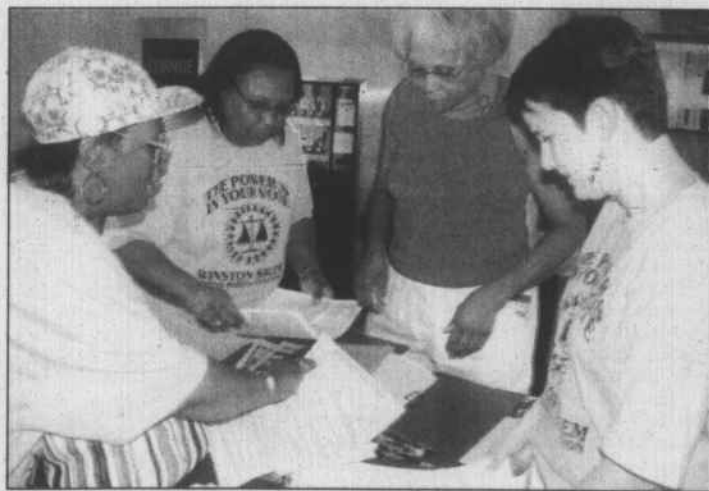


Photo by Kevin Walker

See Coalition on A9 Coalition members look over registration forms at the transportation center.



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Carl H. Russell, Sr.*

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