

Baseball player swings for the stars

- See Page B1



Black execs come to WSSI



Woman sparkles with line of jewels



Church stages Easter musical

-See Page C1

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anel included former Los Angeles prosecutor Chris Darden (from left) Ed Gordon, Dave Gascon and Norma Johnson

## Talk looks at impact of O.J. Simpson case



Charles Ogletree

THE CHRONICLE

GREENSBORO - Chris Darden said that everything from Marcia Clark's overconfidence to media bias played a role in O.J. Simpson's acquittal in 1995 for the murders of Simpson's wife and her friend.

Darden, a former Los Angeles week at N.C. A&T State University that probed the media's role in the Simpson case 10 years after the Chris Darden says media hurt prosecution

"The media was an unwanted guest by the prosecution," said Dar-den, who complained that media focused too much on innuendo and not enough on the hard facts of the case. Darden also said Clark dropped the ball during jury selecassistant district attorney, prosecution by firing the prosecution's jury ed Simpson along with Clark. He consultant. The jury that found took part in a panel discussion last & Simpson not guilty was made up of eight African-Americans, mixed race people, one white and one Hispanic

Last week's discussion was part

of a three-day conference held by A&T's Institute for Advanced Jour-nalism Studies. Events also included a panel discussion featuring African-American White House correspondents.

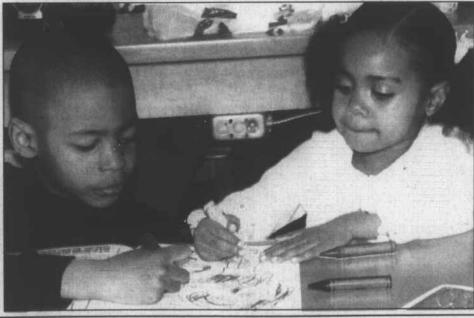
The Simpson talk was moderated by Harvard Law School profes-sor Charles Ogletree and also featured newsman Ed Gordon, who was the first to interview Simpson after the verdict; Dave Gascon, the retired senior chief officer for the Los Angeles Police Department

who made the dramatic announcement on June 17, 1994, that Simp-son was a fugitive; Bill Whitaker, CBS' Los Angeles correspondent who covered the Simpson case; and Norma Johnson, who served as a victims rights advocate for the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office dur-

ing the Simpson case Johnson had objections about the news media. She said the media ignored other people who were violently murdered. Johnson also said she believes news coverage is slanted depending on the race of those involved.

See Simpson on A10

Filling up Free Time



Dara Moss and Jonathan Oakes shared a coloring book last week as they waited for an event to start Wake Forest University. Oakes is the son of Barbee Oakes, the director of Wake's Office of Multicultural Affairs. Moss daughter actress Kimberly Brooks, spoke at Wake last week as part of the school's Diversity Days activities. To read more about Diversity Days, see A3.

# Sutton, Lawrence will get top honors

well-known political activist and the head of the city's public housing agency will receive top honors next month at The Chronicle's

Community Service Awards. Linda Sutton was chosen as Woman of the Year last week for her countless hours of volunteer work with organizations such as the Black Leadership Roundtable, the NAACP and the Winston-Salem Voting Rights Coali-tion. J. Reid Lawrence was selected as Man of the Year for his work leading the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem.

Committee members cited Sutton's tireless efforts last year to register voters and to turn out the vote. As head of Winston-Salem Voting Rights Coalition, Sutton was also watchdog for local vot-

Lawrence has worked quietly over the years to transform public housing in the city. On his watch, the city has landed two competitive HOPE VI grants and, according to the Department of Housing Urban Development, HAWS is better run today than it has ever been.

The screening program at United Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church will get the Community Service Award. The program has continually churned out a high number of African-American Scouts at a time when black faces in scouting have become few and

far between. Bertha Roundtree and Nathan Parrish will both get Human Relations Awards Roundtree created the Moviegoers to foster cross-cultural discussions on relevant issues

See Winners on A9

### Black women celebrate one another

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD THE CHRONICLE

They are former teachers. librarians, volunteers, wives, mothers and sisters. Many of them have touched lives across this community for decades. This past Monday. the Carver School Road Library hosted a group of African-American women for an old-fashioned tea party called "Herstory.

There some of the commu-nity's wisest women gathered to share their life stories about work and family during a time when blacks were still considered second-class citizens. The library\_along with Friends of the Carver School Library sponsored the tea.

The program fell during this month, which is National Women's History Month. where the nation pays tribute to the sheroes who've made a difference around the country.

"The idea just came to me to let these ladies share their stores because there's a wealth of knowledge to be gained from the women who are 75 years and older," said Lois Leggett, Carver School Road

Library Branch director who dreamed up the idea for the tea. Leggett says she wanted the women to share as many pearls of wisdom as they could for the young women growing

"We can learn so much from the women in this community," said Leggett. "I thought it was fitting to hold

this on the first day of spring." Each table was adorned with a doll and tea sets. Information on tea beauty remedies and tea trivia were available



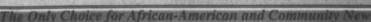
Lois Leggett

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