



Skater making smooth moves

-See Page B1



Rib Fest will benefit a good cause

-See Page A9



North Carolina Room
Forsyth County Public Library
600 West Fifth Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
75 cents
Community Journalism

-See Page B14

32 110806 1 *****CAR-RT-LOT**C022
NORTH CAROLINA ROOM
FORSYTH CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
660 W 5TH ST
WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-2755

CHRONICLE

Vol. XXXII No. 42

THURSDAY, June 15, 2006

FROM THE HEART AND THE HEAD

Boy grows hair to donate to a worthy cause

BY SANDRA ISLEY
THE CHRONICLE

For 11-year-old Brandon Wiley, growing cornrows was more than a fashion statement.

He spent nearly four years growing his hair, which he usually wears closely-cropped. Last week, he went for a hair-cut. He not only wanted a new look but he also wanted to help others.

Brandon donated his hair to Locks of Love, a 10-year-old nonprofit organization that provides custom-fitted hair pieces to children under the age of 18 suffering from medical hair loss. Locks of Love clients include young cancer patients.

All of the organization's wigs and hair pieces are made entirely of donated human hair and take up to four months to create.

Brandon said it was a television show about children living with cancer that made him decide to donate his 15-17 inch long cornrows to Locks of Love.

"I saw kids on television that didn't have any hair," he said.

Brandon has never known



See Hair on A11 Robert Friday gives Brandon Wiley a shape-up.

Photo by Jason Pitt



File Photo
Chancellor Harold Martin has been at WSSU since 2000.

Martin will be missed

Supporters have mixed emotions about his departure

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Even in the very early days of Harold Martin's chancellorship of Winston-Salem State University, Bernice Davenport sensed that great things would happen to her alma mater on Martin's watch.

On one of Martin's first days as the official leader of WSSU, Davenport pulled him aside and presented him with her own verbal contract.

"I asked him could he at least give us a 10-year commitment (as WSSU chancellor)," Davenport recalled this week. Martin responded, "I'll try."

Martin's tenure at WSSU won't total a decade. The University of North Carolina officially announced late last week that Martin has been named senior vice president for academic affairs of the 16-campus UNC system. In his new role, Martin will be the system's top academic officer, overseeing things such as academic planning, student affairs and strategy development. His appointment will become effective July 17.

Davenport, who graduated from WSSU in 1947 when it was still Winston-Salem Teachers College, said she knew Martin's immense talents as a leader would open up other doors of opportunity. She just hoped that he wouldn't walk through another door for many, many years.

"I am happy for him," she said. "But I feel like a mother who wants her child to do well but doesn't want him to leave home."

Rumors about Martin's departure had been rampant for several months. Quentin DeBerry, WSSU's Student Government Association president, said students feared that Martin, a Winston-Salem



DeBerry

Contestant tries to change pageant myth

WSSU's Melody Rodgers trying to become Miss Earth

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

When a lot of people think about pageants, they think about beautiful women with beautiful smiles strutting around a stage in swimsuits and evening gowns.

For Melody Rodgers, who will represent North Carolina in the upcoming Miss Earth USA Pageant, it's about a lot more than that. It's about finding a platform from which to speak and a way to help people.

"It's a great opportunity for women," said Rodgers, a 24-year-old from Farmville who is a program assistant in the Office of International Programs at Winston-Salem State University. Rodgers, who has degrees in public policy and international affairs from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, competed in several smaller, more local pageants when she was younger and got as far as winning First Runner Up and Best Talent in one pageant.

Miss Earth is an international pageant which was first held in 2001. The annual pageant has traditional compo-



Photo by Todd Luck
Melody Rodgers will compete for Miss Earth.

nents like interview, swim suit, and evening gown events, but has a day devoted to community service as well. The winner of the Miss Earth USA pageant, which will be held outside of Las Vegas on July 29, will go on to compete in the international pageant in Chile, where women from more than 80 countries are expected to compete. The ultimate winner, Miss Earth, will work with the United Nations and other groups to advocate for environmental issues around the globe. Miss Earth gives speeches, makes public appearances, and does community service work like planting trees.

Pageants are about testing the whole person, not just one aspect of them, Rodgers said. It combines speaking skills, physical fitness, education and other qualities to find someone who excels in every aspect of their life. Though the swim suit competition, which Rodgers says displays physical fitness, may get a lot of attention in pageants, it's not the most important part.

"Pageants are really won in the interview," said Rodgers.

Rodgers picked the Miss Earth Pageant because she said it has a charity component and a greater focus on both inner and outer beauty. As the North Carolina representative of Miss Earth, she'll appear at Earth Day events next March and will be partnered up with a sponsor whose

See Rodgers on A9

Juneteenth kicks-off tonight

Bulk of activities slated for Rupert Bell Park Saturday

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

After months of planning, the Triad Juneteenth Festival is coming to Rupert Bell Park Saturday. Juneteenth is the celebration of the end of slavery in the United States.

Organizers are expecting attendees from Greensboro, High Point and, of course, Winston-Salem. The portion of the festival to be staged in the park will start at 11 a.m. and end at 5 p.m. The event, which is free and open to the public, will include an opening ceremony, food and merchandise vendors, an art gallery, youth activities and a steady stream of entertainment.

Juneteenth events will actually kickoff tonight (June 15) with a Roundtable Dialogue at 7 p.m. at the Winston-Salem Urban League. The topic will be "Race

Relations and Bridging the Gap."

Poet Dr. Maya Angelou will be among those on hand to discuss the topic. She will be joined by panelists Donna Oldham, Dell's Communications Director; Author Carole Weatherford; Urban League President and CEO Keith Grandberry; Assistant Superintendent Dr. Angelia Fryer; St. Paul United Methodist Church pastor, Dr. Donald Jenkins; Carlton Merritt, Center Manager for Piedmont Imaging; and Pauline Morris, director of Forsyth Technical Community College's Hispanic Center.

Performers already confirmed for Saturday's event include Galvin Crisp and Herb Stephens of the jazz group Class Act Jazz and bluesman Big Ron Hunter and the Have Mercy Blues Band.

Hunter's voice has been known to give



Angelou

File Photo
A woman performs at last year's Juneteenth program at Corpening Plaza. The event has a new location this year.



See Juneteenth on A5

See Martin on A9

ateful Memory of Our
Founders,
orrie S. Russell and
arl H. Russell, Sr.

"Growing and Still Dedicated to Serve You Better"
Russell Funeral Home
Wishes to Thank Everyone For Their Support

822 Carl Russell Ave.
(at Martin Luther King Dr.)
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
(336) 722-3459
Fax (336) 631-8268
rusfh@bellsouth.net

