



**Former Footballer has a new passion**

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**Girls camp teaches leadership at Bennett**

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**African tea raises money as well as awareness**

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## SENIOR AND JUNIOR

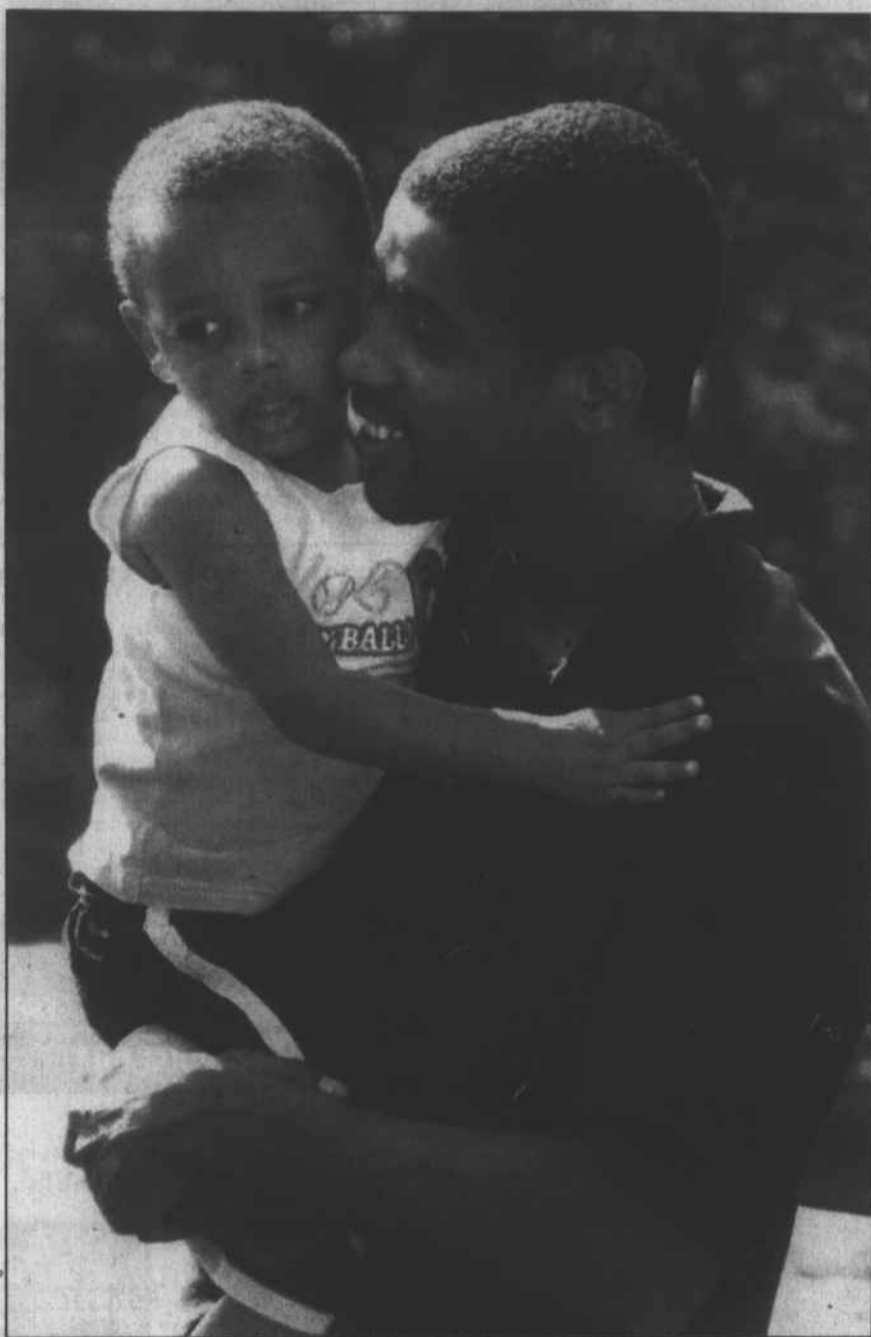


Photo by Kevin Walker

Jeffrey Gary carries his son, Jeffrey Jr., around Blum Park late last month. The two were at the park on Father's Day for a celebration to honor Mo Lucas, a local mentoring legend. Father and son enjoyed live music, activities and food.

## Torch is passed at Winston-Salem State

*Michelle Howard-Vital is interim leader*

BY SANDRA ISLEY  
THE CHRONICLE

Harold Martin passed the baton Monday to Michelle Howard-Vital, who will serve as the interim chancellor of Winston-Salem State University. Her appointment will become effective July 17. At around the same time, Martin will begin his new job as senior vice president for academic affairs for the UNC system.

Martin, who led WSSU for six years, will now be responsible for overseeing the 16-campus UNC system in areas that relate to academic planning, student affairs and strategy development.

Martin and Howard-Vital were joined by Kevin Myatt, chairman of the WSSU Board of Trustees, for Monday's news conference. They addressed not only members of the media but also a crowd of faculty members, alumni and others.

Martin told the crowd that he was leaving WSSU in good hands. He said that the framework for many goals concerning the university, including the \$35 million capital campaign goal, had already been set in place and would continue to move forward under Howard-Vital's leadership.



Michelle Howard-Vital

See WSSU on A11



Photo by Todd Luck

Angela Lawrence of the Greensboro Truth and Reconciliation Commission shares her experience during the summit of truth groups held in Greensboro last week.

## Truth-seekers gather in Greensboro for powwow

BY TODD LUCK  
THE CHRONICLE

A summit of truth and reconciliation commissions and other truth-seeking projects from across the country and around the globe met last week in Greensboro to discuss what it's like to seek justice and healing for atrocities that many would rather forget.

The summit coincided with the recent release of the Greensboro Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report on the events of Nov. 3, 1979, when a group of Klansmen and Nazis opened fire on protesters during a "Death to the Klan" march in Greensboro. Five people were killed and ten were wounded. No one was ever convicted for the attack.

Other truth seeking groups there included several from the South and others from Ireland, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and Peru. They met for two days for private discussions and held a public forum Saturday morning, which was followed by a celebration of the Greensboro commission's work featuring food and festivities.

Despite being from all over the world, the groups found they had many things in common. Most of the groups were formed in response to violence that was used to intimidate and control.

"What we're learning is that not only is there a lot of terrorism around the world today, there was a great deal of terrorism committed by Americans against fellow Americans in past decades and even today," said Richard Rusk of the Moore's Ford Memorial Committee.

Rusk's committee was created to commemorate the victims of a brutal 1946 lynching at Moore's Ford Bridge in Georgia. He said back when his committee started in 1997, there were few groups in the United States doing that sort of work and now it's good to see all these groups gathered together.

Another thing that many of the truth groups had faced was collective denial as they attempted to bring histories to light that many have ignored.

"There's an American trend in this country to recover memory that has been suppressed for so many decades," said Eduardo Gonzalez who participated in a truth commission in Peru. "This could be the next big thing in the history of the United States, to bring communities together to look into the past to recover the memories of very painful moments."

Gonzalez said that dealing with these painful memories strengthens communities



Gonzalez

BY JAESON PITT  
THE CHRONICLE

From representing female emcees to the fullest on the microphone to offering a place for all aspiring artists to be heard, Rykashay (pronounced ricochet) has bounced creative ideas off of many eardrums.

One of those ideas caught the attention of the folks at Club 411, a downtown hotspot. Rykashay is now the host of a weekly talent showcase at the club where local performers get a chance to hit the stage and shine.

"I saw other areas, Charlotte and Atlanta, hosting talent showcases for local talent while there was a void here in Winston-Salem for such opportunities," she said. "I realized that we don't have a lot of support for local artist and maybe I could form some kind of event and alert the spectators, because they are unaware of the talent, and expose the



Photo by Jaeson Pitt

Shipp & O perform at the showcase.

local artists."

Each Tuesday, locals take to the stage at the club. The performances are judged and winners are invited to come back to compete against others. Cash prizes are available as well.

"(It's) not like (Showtime at the) Apollo because the Apollo format is based on crowd participation," she

said. The talent showcases three anonymous judges in the crowd who gauge each performer on his or her creativity and delivery.

A grand-prize winner will eventually be selected. That lucky person will win \$250 cash, five hours of studio time, and fifty CDs of their music.

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