



Rams give all for local NFL try-outs

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Student's poetry a hit at state event

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Locals take off in BMWs to raise funds

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A LEGACY NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN

Dr. Alexander Hamilton Ray contributions were vast

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

The late Dr. Alexander Hamilton Ray was a force in the medical community. He brought the need for exemplary medical care for everyone to the forefront, tearing down barriers that had left African-Americans in the lurch and offering them an alternative to substandard care.

He was thanked last week for his vast contributions when a building at Winston-Salem State University was renamed in his honor.

In 1936, Ray was elected to serve on the Board of Trustees for Winston-Salem State University, then Winston-Salem Teachers College, and later became the institution's first full-



WSSU officials and prominent guests take part in the ribbon-cutting.



A portrait of Dr. Ray.

time physician. The first student health center, constructed in 1952, was named in his honor. Along with a handful of his colleagues, Dr. Ray also established a private clinic for African-

See Dr. Ray on A10

Prom dress giveaway lives on

Program expects hundreds of local girls to take advantage

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Prom night is a big event in the lives of so many high school students. An enchanted evening designed expressly for love and for laughter, for making memories that will last a lifetime, the prom is a much anticipated event for many young people. However, for those without the means to purchase that "perfect gown," the high school prom can also be a source of stress — that is, until one local student resolved to even the playing field four years ago.



Slade

Natalie Renaldo, a high school student and Girl Scout, came up with the innovative idea that led to the YWCA's "Enchanted Prom" program, and the joy of many local high school girls.

"As her Girl Scout project, she decided that she would collect prom gowns and give them out to girls in the community," said Sabrina Slade, the director of the YWCA's Youth Intervention Services. "Through her project, she was able to collect about 100 that year, and her mom allowed her to give out prom gowns out of the trunk of her car."

The following year, Slade and the YWCA decided to take up Renaldo's torch, collecting new and used prom gowns, shoes and accessories to give out to local girls.

"We just sort of adopted what she did and grew it to another level, to give out to girls in not only this county but the other surrounding counties," Slade said of the event, which the YWCA took over in 2005. "RJ Reynolds really helped a lot the very first year ... by volunteering manpower ... (and) we get

See Prom on A13



Photo by Layla Farmer

Randal Pinkett won a recent season of "The Apprentice."

"Apprentice" winner shares his success story

Dr. Randal Pinkett spoke to several classes at WSSU

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

It is said, "To whom much is given, much is expected." If this is in fact a true statement, Randal Pinkett, Ph.D. has a lot to give. He was on the campus of Winston-Salem State University all day Tuesday, doing just that — daring students to dream big.

"Today it is my distinct privilege to introduce Dr. Randal Pinkett," said Dr. Elwanda Ingram, professor of English and interim chair of the Department of English and Foreign Languages. "It always brings me joy when I find out about young African Americans who are doing wonderful things and great things that we all can be proud of."



Ingram

The CEO of BCT Partners, a multimillion dollar management, technology and consulting firm, and winner of NBC's "The Apprentice, Season 4," Pinkett has indeed accomplished a great deal in his 36 years.

He spoke to WSSU students candidly about his life, his career and the path that led him to what he considers to be his destiny.

Pinkett — whose father passed away while he was in high school — and his older brother Dan, were reared by their mother in New Jersey. He spoke of the challenges his mother faced as a single parent, and of the pressure he felt to temper her struggle.

"We didn't have a lot when I was growing up, and so for my mother to take on the responsibility of raising us was a lot for her. She worked two jobs on certain occasions, to make sure that we had food on the table and clothes on our backs," he said. "As I was getting older, I started to feel more of a sense of responsibility to contribute or to support my mother, but it was her message to me all along that she wanted me to get a good education. She wanted me to go to college, she wanted me to get a degree, and she wanted me to take advantage of the opportunities that she was making available to me and my older brother."

Pinkett went on to college, with an athletic scholarship to Rutgers University. He later became the first African-

See Pinkett on A5

Stitch in Time



Photo by Jason Pitt

Cyndi Tucker knits last week on a spring-like day in Old Salem. Tucker is one of dozens of people who bring the 18th-Century back to life at the historical site, which strives to preserve the rich local Moravian history.

Wandering artist settles down in Winston

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

J.J. Jackson had spent most of his life traveling the world as an artist. But when his ex-wife needed help, he left his wandering days behind to help raise her newborn baby and their two children. In doing so, he's found responsibility and a home that he's never had before.

Jackson, a 52-year-old native of Tulsa, Okla., is a mixed media artist whose work on African-American culture ranges from photo etchings to works done in pastel and acrylic paint. Jackson has done everything from album covers to stage design over the years to make a living.

"When I had nothing else, I had my art. When I was traveling from one place to the next I didn't have no three or four bags of luggage or keepsakes or anything, all I needed to travel with was an easel and a



Photo by Todd Luck

See Artist on A13 J.J. Jackson poses with little Grace Malick and some of his work.



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