



**Mt. Tabor
football
team off to
good start**

-See Page B1



**Panther
Seale
slated at
WSSU**

-See Page A10



**Hospital
employee
excels
on the job**

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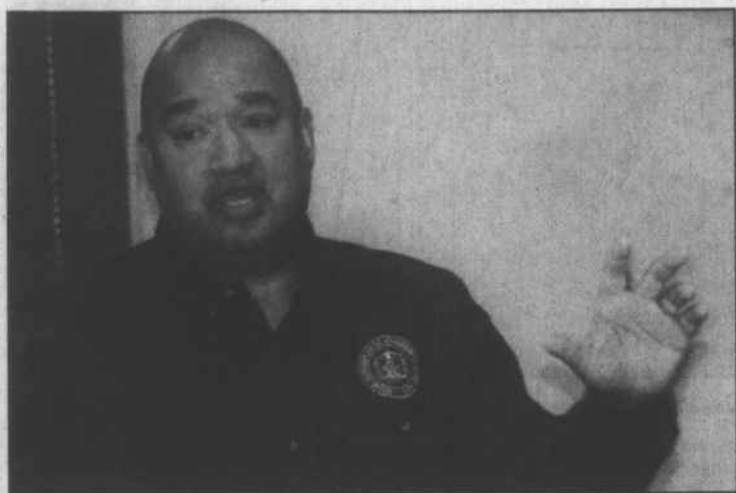
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NAACP works to be part of solution

Organization partners with school system to aid student success

NAACP
President
Stephen
Hairston has
been busy
fielding com-
plaints from
parents about
schools.



BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

It is no secret that the Winston-Salem Branch of the NAACP and the city/county school system have not always seen eye to eye. In recent years, the NAACP has criticized the school system for a variety of reasons.

"We've been critical of the school system in Forsyth County ... and the disproportionate number of black kids being expelled, suspended, the disproportionate number of black kids being arrested, and, of course, the number of

schools in the black commu-

nity that are just failing when it comes to end of the year tests," said local NAACP President Stephen Hairston.

This year, however, the NAACP is taking a new approach, collaborating with the school system to foster positive



Martin

change. "We (will) still raise our concerns with the school system, but we need to get in the ball game too and see what we all can do to come together and work to solve some of these problems," Hairston commented.

Details of the program, which the NAACP has dubbed the No Excuse Initiative, are still being ironed out, but the NAACP has already agreed to work closely with Parkland High School's incoming freshman class this year, addressing academic and dis-

See NAACP on A5

Tears flow as survivors speak

State program sterilized more than 7,000 people without their consent

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Two survivors of North Carolina's eugenics program shared their emotional, tragic stories at the opening reception for an exhibit now on display at Winston-Salem State University that explores one of the darkest parts of the state's history.

Elaine Riddick sobbed as she told the audience that she was raped and had a child when she was only 13. In the wake of this incident, a state-directed sterilization procedure was performed on her without her knowledge when she was 14.

Riddick was among the thousands of poor blacks targeted by the program, which forcibly sterilized residents deemed unfit between 1929 and 1975. The impact of what was done to Riddick, hit her years



Mary English was tricked into sterilization.

later.

"I got married at the age of 18 year of age," she said. "At the age of 19, we wanted to start a family. I didn't get pregnant so I went to the doctor and the doctor made clear that I was

See Exhibit on A14

A COMMUNITY THAT BUILDS TOGETHER ...



Photo by Kevin Walker

Doris Barr, a faithful member of First Calvary Baptist Church, helps build a Habitat for Humanity home for a local family on Saturday. Dozens of people, many from local churches, spent part of their holiday weekend at the building site in Glen Oaks. To read more about the effort, see page B10.

Power bill help program enhanced

Agencies work together to help residents meet energy demands

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

As the mercury rose on the thermometer this summer, so did the energy bills, as local residents struggled to keep their homes at a comfortable temperature. For many county residents, the record temperatures this summer posed more than just a n annoyance. Families who struggled to keep their heads above water financially



Freeney

priorly to the heat wave were faced with a difficult choice: brave the heat or pay a high premium for comfort, as air conditioners labored day and night.

Luckily, there is some relief for low income families and seniors in the area, by way of the CIP (Crisis Intervention Program). One of two energy programs funded by a federal grant through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the CIP offers much-needed financial aid to those threatened by termination notices from the power company.

"Utility bills have gotten higher and higher; low income families' income hasn't gotten any higher," explained Bobbi Bales, program manager for the Forsyth County Department of Social Services (DSS), which oversees the distribution of CIP funds on the local level.

Traditionally, the CIP provides up to \$300 per fiscal year to households in Forsyth County that meet program guidelines. The federal

Restoration efforts continue despite leader's death

Officials hope historic designations will help raise funds, awareness

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

The Odd Fellows Cemetery, one of the oldest and largest African-American cemeteries in Winston-Salem, was recently added to the city's list of historic landmarks.

Started in 1911, two years before the merger of Winston and Salem, the cemetery is named for the Odd Fellows Fraternal Order, which still owns the cemetery off of Shorefair Drive (near the Dixie Classic Fairgrounds).

In its heyday, the cemetery was the premier burial site for the city's black elite, especially since there were few graveyards at the beginning of the 20th century that accepted African-Americans. It is believed that as many as 10,000 people are

buried on Odd Fellow's more than 10 acres of land. The exact figure is unknown because a building that housed the cemetery's records burned to the ground decades ago.

Odd Fellows has seen other hard times. When members of the Odd Fellows Order, who cared for the graveyard, began to die off, the cemetery fell into disrepair. Overgrown vegetation covered gravestones until the cemetery became a virtual jungle, unfit for loved ones of the deceased to even visit.

Help for the cemetery came in the late 1990s in the form of the Odd Fellows Reclamation Committee, which has worked diligently to restore the cemetery to its former glory.

"It's a historic place and that's why we're trying to bring



Clyburn



File Photo

This 2005 photo shows a headstone in Odd Fellows Cemetery amid overgrown shrubs.

See Odd Fellows on A10

See Partnership on A5



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