



Giants of the past return to WSSU

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School's first nurses return for reunion

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Men step up to the plate at Petree

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Celebrating 33rd Anniversary Community Journalism North Forsyth County Public Library 660 West Fifth Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101

# THE CHRONICLE

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## FIELD (HOUSE) OF DREAMS

Winston-Salem State, city celebrate opening of \$5 million building

BY T. KEVIN WALKER THE CHRONICLE

Physically, it's the Taj Mahal of field houses, with its spacious 21,000-square-foot and top-notch amenities. But at last week's dedication for Winston-Salem State University's new athletic facility at Bowman Gray Stadium, it was the symbolism of the \$5 million field house that made the strongest impression.

The field house, with its meeting rooms, athletic administrative offices and immense weight and locker rooms, is being viewed as a sign of the new WSSU, a school that is constantly emerging in size, scope and national stature.

"It's a first-class building for a Division I, first-class program," said Robert Northington, a former City Council Member who now heads the Winston-Salem Public Assembly Facilities Committee.

The city, which owns the 70-year-old stadium, picked up about \$1 million of the field house's price tag. The rest of the bill was picked up by WSSU, which has nearly exclusive use of the stadium, although drag racing events are held there part of the year.

City Council Member Joycelyn Johnson said the city's partnership with the university to build the field house is something that other cities should consider. She plans to brag about the collaboration, and its glorious results, at a National League of Cities gathering next week in



Earline and Curtis Richardson dedicate the building's Hospitality Suite, which is named for the couple. Also pictured is Chancellor Donald Reeves, left.

New Orleans.

"This is the best practice for the country," she said.

Held in the midst of homecoming week, the outdoor dedication ceremony drew hundreds of students, alumni, city leaders and community supporters on a nippy Friday afternoon. After the cere-

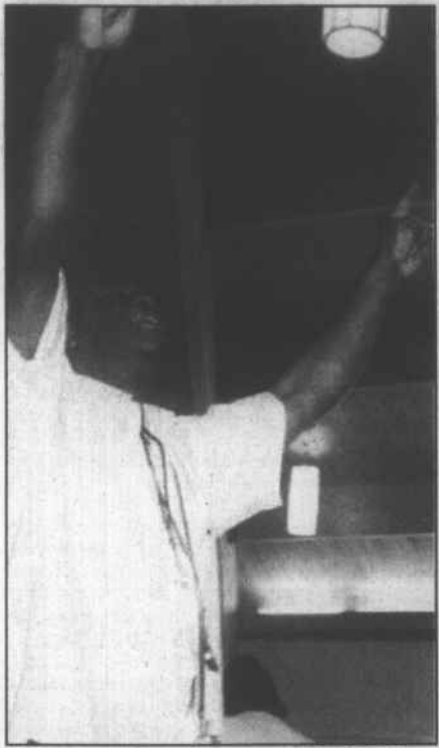
mony and the cutting of the ceremonial ribbon, attendees were invited to tour the facility or take part in three separate, indoor dedication ceremonies.

Three areas of the building were named for alumni who not only gave generously toward the field house's construction, but

have dug deep into their pockets for WSSU many times over the years.

"If it hadn't been for Winston-Salem State, we would not have been able to contribute anything," Earline Richardson, a 1971 graduate, said, crediting her alma mater

See Field house on A15



Alphonso Chaplin raises his hands in praise.

## Searching for Deliverance

'Street Life' Conference again strives to change lives

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Lisa Frasier is breaking free - in more ways than one.

Released less than a month ago from prison for drug possession, Frasier, 24, is facing an up hill battle to turn her life around.



Frasier

"What I learned - you get out of life what you put into it," she declared. "If you're out there willing to put forth to an effort to get what you want out of life, it will come."

Frasier sought help wherever help was available, including at a local agency that helps former inmates and the Darryl Hunt Project for Freedom and Justice, which also offers programs to the

formally incarcerated.

"I'm going back to school. I'm going to pursue my GED," said Frasier, who has big dreams of one day working in the real estate industry and helping other young women out of similar predicaments.

Though she is optimistic about the direction her life is taking, Frasier knows she can't do it alone. That's why she joined the throngs of others at the

See C2C on A12



Foster teen Lakreisha Morris hands out fliers.

## Foster teens are raising awareness of their plight

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

The Forsyth County Foster Home and Adoption Services van was a new addition to this year's Winston-Salem State University Homecoming Parade. The plain white vehicle carried no waving beauty queens or champion running backs, just an important message - local teenagers are in great need of loving foster homes.

The teens themselves volunteered to personally deliver that message to the thousands of people that gathered along the parade route Saturday. More than a dozen young men and women walked alongside the van, passing out bright red fliers to the masses along Fourth Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. The fliers touted the Forsyth County Department of Social Services' great need for families willing to become foster-adopt

resource families for the hundreds of young people DSS takes in every year. Teenagers are harder to place in foster care because most families prefer younger children.

Carmelita Burrell - coordinator of LINKS, a program that connects teens in foster care with the resources they need - came up with the idea of promoting the foster care division at the parade and many of the youth in the LINKS program wanted to help out. The teens also carried a banner in the parade. Burrell said the teens are one of DSS' best recruiting resources.

"I tell them all the time 'You have a voice, you have a voice to speak and be heard' and that's what I'm doing is empowering them to use their voice," said Burrell.

The greatest need is for families willing to take-in a teenager for a temporary foster stay.

See Foster teens on A11

### STYLE & SUBSTANCE

Photo by Kevin Walker

Taylor Dewberry proudly wears her Ms. Ebony Fashion Fair crown Saturday during Winston-Salem State's Homecoming Parade. The teen won the title last Friday and took home prizes and scholarship money.



## Another new business comes to Corridor

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Liberty Community Development Corporation is taking another step toward its goal of bringing a brighter future to the Liberty Street Corridor, a stretch of road that runs from Smith Reynolds Airport into the heart of downtown.

On Tuesday, the CDC will celebrate the much-anticipated grand opening of a new business along the corridor.

Oliver Enterprises has taken up residence in a remodeled house in the 1700 block. The home is owned by Louis and Verdie Morris and was in need of extensive renovations. The condition of the house had gotten so bad that the city had threatened to level it, said Jim Shaw, the chairman on the CDC's board.

The couple agreed to lease the house to



See CDC on A15 Lucious Oliver and Jim Shaw stand outside of the revamped home.

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