



**Atkins  
High  
player signs  
with Shaw**

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**Women  
tour state  
for Hillary  
Clinton**

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**Residents  
plants  
trees for  
Roots Day**

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North Carolina Room  
Forsyth County Public Library  
660 West 5th Street  
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25th Anniversary  
Community Journalism

# THE CHRONICLE

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## Today begins early voting

BY LAYLA FARMER  
THE CHRONICLE

After considerable controversy, one-stop voting will begin today.

In recent months, the Forsyth County Board of Elections has heard from an array of community members about early voting. The number of locations needed and length of time each site will be open have both been



Elliott

called into question.

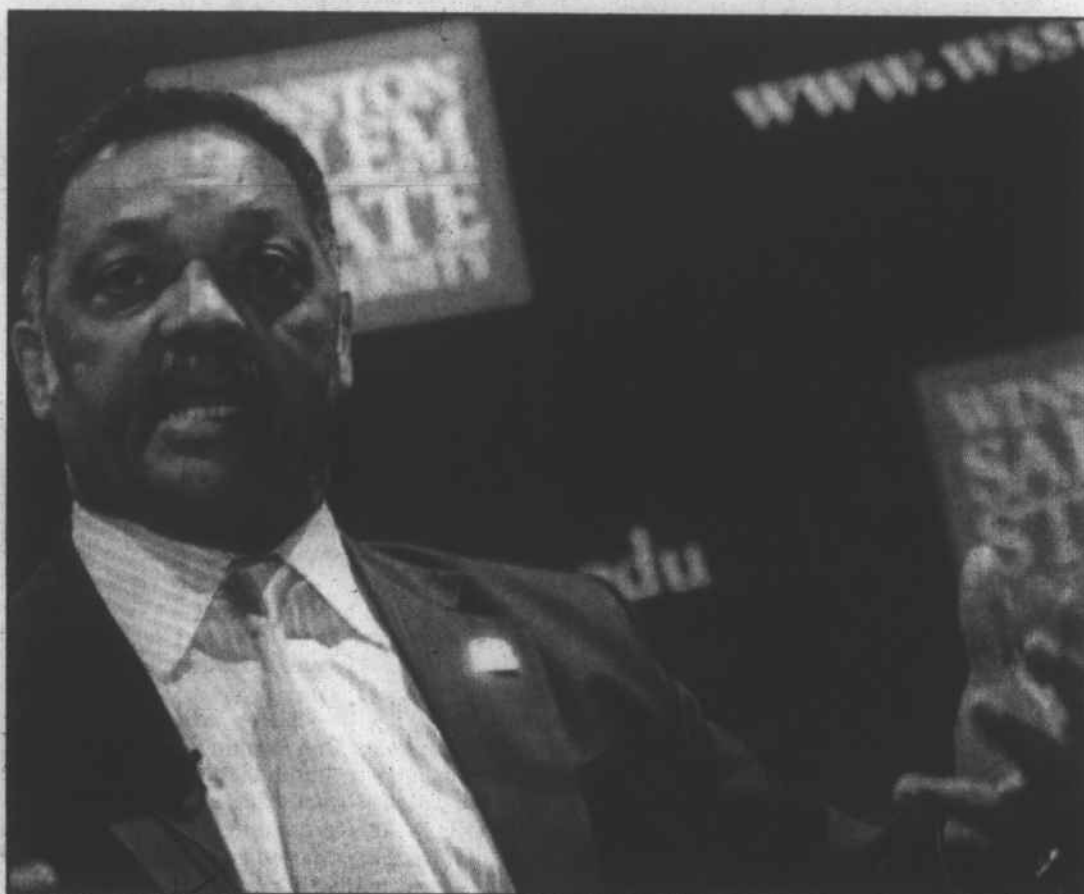
State Rep. Larry Womble was one of the most outspoken proponents of adding early voting locations. To this end, Womble and State Rep. Earline Parmon have attended several BOE meetings, bringing with them a consortium of community members who also supported the effort.

"It's convenient for people who don't want to vote on Election Day," Womble asserted. "That is the reason why we have these early one stop voting sites in the first place."

The board had originally proposed to hold early voting at four locations, including the Forsyth County Government Center, where the BOE is housed. An increase in that number was later suggested by the two Democratic board members as the competition between Senators Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama continued to heat up in the Democratic Presidential contest. One board member dissented, asserting that

See Voting on A12

## HBCU PRIDE!



The Rev. Jesse Jackson speaks at WSSU last week.

*Jackson extols the  
virtues of black  
colleges*

BY LAYLA FARMER  
THE CHRONICLE

"It's a great day to be a Ram," Student Government Association President Robert Stephens said Thursday afternoon. Stephens, a senior at Winston-Salem State University, greeted a crowd of more than 1,000 at the K.R. Williams Auditorium.

Behind him on the stage sat Chancellor Donald Reaves and Rev. Jesse Jackson. Jackson, served as keynote speaker for a student forum on the role and relevance of Historically Black Colleges Yesterday and Today.

"(Jackson) is a leader who has stood on the battlefield and fought valiantly for all of us ... and though you are an Aggie, we will not hold that against you," Stephens concluded to thunderous applause.

See Jackson on A4



Dr. Maya Angelou

80

## Reasons to Throw a Party

*City to celebrate  
Angelou's birthday  
Saturday*

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The community is being encouraged to come out Saturday (April 19) and help the city wish its most famous resident a happy 80th birthday.

Musical tributes, special guests and, of course, cake and punch are all on the agenda for Saturday's celebration, which is being billed as a "Hometown Salute" for Maya Angelou. The renowned writer has called this city home for more than 25 years. Angelou came to town in 1981 to teach at Wake Forest University, where she is the school's first Reynolds Professor of American Studies.

She was already world famous by the time she arrived here. Angelou's 1969 autobiography, "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," was an instant classic. She followed that success with five other successful autobiographies and a slew of popular books of poetry and essays. Some of Angelou's poetry is expected to be performed at the celebration. Drummers, jazz musicians and performances by student groups from the N.C. School of the Arts, Winston-Salem State University, Wake Forest University and the N.C. Black Repertory Co. are also on the program.

Saturday's celebration will be a belated one for Angelou. The St. Louis native celebrated her milestone birthday on April 4. She has already been given birthday tributes and accolades by friends and fans from around the world. Now, it is Winston-Salem's turn.

"Dr. Angelou has enriched our community both with her work and her presence as one of our most distinguished citizens," said Mayor Allen Joines. "Our celebration is a fitting recognition of her achievements and a chance to introduce her work to the next generation."

The festivities will begin at 1 p.m. at Corpening Plaza, which is on the corner of Liberty and First streets downtown.

In the event of rain, the celebration will be held in the Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium on the campus of Winston-Salem State University, 601 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive.

### MAKING IT OFFICIAL



WSSU Photo

UNC System President Erskine Bowles (far left) looks on as Dr. Donald Reaves is sworn in last Friday as the new chancellor of Winston-Salem State University by U.S. District Court Judge James Beaty (far right). Standing next to the chancellor is his wife, Dr. Deborah Ross Reaves.

## SENIORS BEWARE

*Seminar warns older folks about scams*

BY TODD LUCK  
THE CHRONICLE

More than 58 percent of all fraud happens to people over the age of 50, according to a 2001 AARP survey.

Monica Julian, a Wake Forest University law student, knows first hand the prevalence of fraud on seniors. She works with the Elder Law Clinic at Wake Forest University, where students provide free legal services to low income seniors. All too often, the request for legal aid involves fraud in the thousands or tens of thousands of dollars.

"How are we letting our parents, our grandparents and our neighbors lose everything they worked their whole lives for?" said Julian.

Julian described one of her clients who was as money savvy as they come. The client

had paid off her house and owned her own business for more than 15 years. She shredded all her old credit cards and bank statements. She kept a close eye on her back accounts. The woman still lost over \$68,000 to a man who had befriended her for several months.



Angie Thompson

The story was far from unusual at a forum on scams aimed at seniors last week. It was held at Senior Services and sponsored by the Elder Law Clinic.

Angie Thompson shared her aunt's story. Her aunt met a door-to-door salesman who sold her a vacuum. The man came back and sold her another. She refused to buy a third from him but he still kept coming around. A bond formed between the two, the woman came to view him as family. He even called her "mother."

Then, Thompson said, the man went after

See Scams on A11

**SENIOR SERVICES**  
Helping Our Elderly Live With Dignity

John Maron talks about scams aimed at the elderly.

"Growing and Still Dedicated to Serve You Better"

**Russell Funeral Home**

Wishes to Thank Everyone For Their Support

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

