



Glenn beats up on Atkins in JV game

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Healing music program launched

-See Page A11



Students have fun learning math

Celebrating Forsyth County Public Library 660 West Fifth Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101 Community Journal

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21 110908 NORTH CAROLINA ROOM FORSYTH CTY PUBLIC LIBRARY 660 W 5TH ST WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-2755

DELL ADOPTS ATKINS



Aycock Principal Valerie Adkins with Atkins leaders Brad Craddock and Freda Smith at Dell headquarters on Tuesday.

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Dell Inc. celebrated the emergence of two new partnerships with local schools during a special program at its Winston-Salem headquarters Tuesday morning.

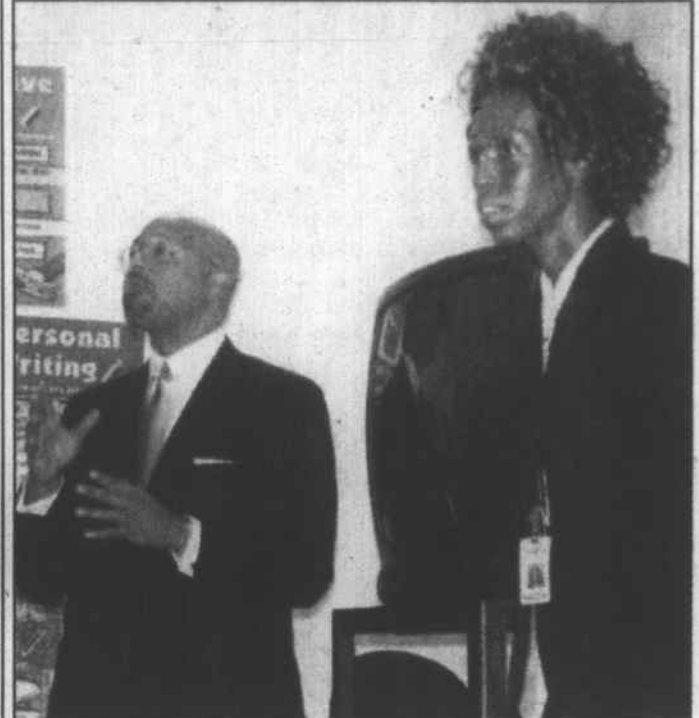


Oldham

The computer giant has agreed to collaborate with Atkins Academic and Technology High School in Winston-Salem and the Aycock Spanish Immersion Technical Middle School, a technology-focused magnet school in the Guilford County system.

"When you look at the history and

See Dell on A6



Teacher Sonya Wagstaff stands by as Judge Todd Burke addresses her students.

SHOW AND TELL

Judge visits local school to talk about the legal system

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

Textbooks have their place, but they can't respond to questions or serve as role models for the students who use them.

Sonya Wagstaff is well aware of that. So the Hanes Middle School teacher regularly looks to men and women in the community to help her explain to students some of the myriad issues that are probed in her social studies class.

In a nutshell, Burke told the 16 students in the class that his job as a judge is to ensure a fair outcome for all who come before him.

"When people come to court, I realize that everyone does not come there on the same level," said Burke. "It is my responsibility, my duty, to make it a level playing field for everyone, so everyone is treated the same."

In addition to his obvious expertise on legal matters, Wagstaff also wanted Burke to speak to her class because his story is surely one that can inspire her kids.

Burke comes from a family of public servants. His mother is Mayor Pro Tempore Vivian Burke, whose three decades on the City Council makes her the longest serving member to ever sit on the board.

Burke said that going out into the community and speaking to young people is one of the highlights of his job. He welcomes the

See Burke on A14



Sam Robbins fills out a voter registration form Saturday in Parkway Plaza Shopping Center.

Final Countdown to Start of Voting

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Everything you need to know before heading to the polls

The marathon campaign season that has dominated newscasts and clogged airwaves for the better part of the past two years will soon come to a culmination none of us will likely forget on November 4.

As that historic day draws near, election officials

and local party leaders are urging residents to take time out to make sure they will be ready.

In order to be eligible to vote in the Nov. 4 election, residents must be 18 years of age and have lived at their

residence for more than 30 days, says Forsyth County Board of Elections Director Robert Coffman. He recommends that voters visit the Board of Elections Web site, www.fcvotes.com, to check their registration status and

precinct location prior to the registration deadline tomorrow (Oct. 10). Those who have not voted in more than four years will be listed as inactive, but will still be able to vote as usual, Coffman says. However those who have not voted in more than eight years will need to re-register.

See Voting on A4

IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING



Animals are nearly as plentiful as people at this week's Dixie Classic Fair. This pair of sheep are among the barnyard critters taking center stage. These two got extra attention from fair-goers Sunday as one ate away at the other's colorful garment.

Group for gay students launched at WSSU

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

When Howard McQuirter Jr.'s parents found out he was gay, they disowned him. Stripped of his car, cell phone and financial support just two weeks before starting his educational journey at Winston-Salem State University, McQuirter says he was forced to make some serious adjustments in his life.

"It was hard; I didn't really have anyone," said McQuirter, 20, who is now a junior at WSSU. "It was a bit of a struggle emotionally."

Despite the hardships he endured, McQuirter resolved he would never again deny



Members of the WSSU GSSA.

who or what he was. He says he's glad he doesn't have to hide anymore.

"It's really a burden carrying that secret," he com-

mented. "I had to make a decision within myself that I wasn't going to be scared of (people's reactions) ... If I was going to accept my sex-

uality fully, I had to be ready for whatever came my way."

Twenty-seven-year-old Di'Tarrie Hooper, a mass communications major, says he's grown accustomed to the persecution.

"You hear little ignorant comments, people whispering and saying stuff like, 'Is that that faggot?'" he reported. "I've been called everything you can call a gay person, but I'm fine with it. I'd rather be me and not be accepted as much than to act like somebody else and be respected. You just get a thicker skin and you grow from everything that you've been through."

When the world beats them down, McQuirter and

See GSSA on A4

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