



Skinner Family holds golf tournament

-See Page B8



NFL player comes home

-See Page A3



Church garden feeds many

-See Page B7

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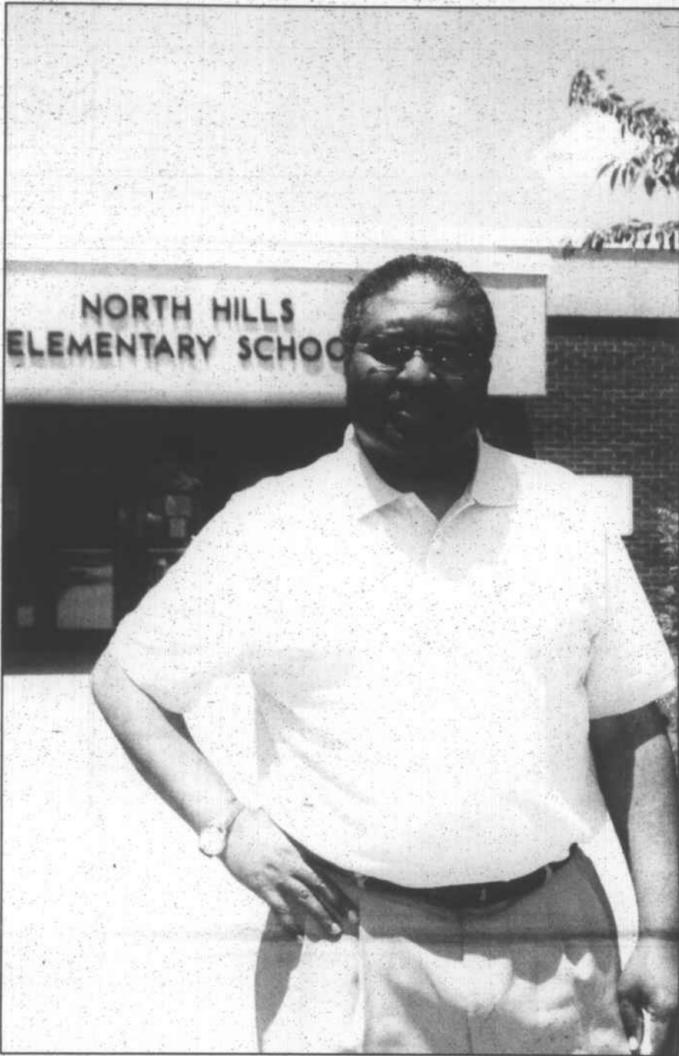
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WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, July 2, 2009



Nate Barber stands outside of North Hills Elementary last week. Photo by Layla Farmer

Supporters hope Barber brings magic touch to Carver

Education veteran leaves North Hills Elementary to become principal of Carver High School

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Carver High School will start out the 2009-2010 school year under new leadership, the Board of Education announced last week.

Principal Nate Barber was slated to make the transition from North Hills Elementary, where he has spent the last 10 years, to Carver on July 1.

Carver has been without a permanent leader since last fall, when former Principal Carol Montague Davis vacated the position to take over as assistant superintendent of Middle Schools for the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School system. The school has endured ample criticism in recent years because of low test scores and slipping enrollment. Superintendent Don Martin is hopeful that Barber's leadership will help turn things around.

"Certainly, Nate has a proven track record with the school system, but more importantly, as the principal of North Hills, they've had outstanding achievement," Martin said.



Martin

North Hills was recognized as a Blue Ribbon School in 2004, a distinction from the U.S. Department of Education that only two schools in the school system have ever achieved. The accolade is given to only the most promising schools in the nation, based on achievement and other factors. Martin noted that the population North Hills serves, which is predominantly African-American and Hispanic, is similar to Carver's student body.

Despite being without a permanent principal, the school has rallied in the last school year, Martin said.

"Carver has posted some pretty

See Carver on A5



Photo by Layla Farmer
Albany State senior Cordarial Holloway.

Future teachers taught at WSSU

HBCU students from throughout the region gather for institute

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Forty aspiring minority educators from historically black colleges and universities throughout the Southeast convened in Winston-Salem last week to take part in an innovative program designed to improve their chances of succeeding.

The Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCFF) led its second of four HBCU Teacher Quality and Retention Summer Institutes this year at Winston-Salem State University from June 21-27.

Nearly half of all minority educators in public schools systems around the nation hail from public HBCUs, according to the Institute, which over the last two decades has awarded more than \$100 million for leadership development and support programs for students at 47 HBCUs.

Organizers at the WSSU event were pleased that many of the future educators in attendance were black males — a rare commodity in most classrooms.

See Teachers on A10

LITTLE HERO

Boy honored for attempts to save his father's life

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

On the evening of Feb. 3, Rodney Boyce played in the snow with his five-year-old son, Isaac. Then he headed into the house for some quiet time with his new wife, Lysa Boyce.



Photo by Layla Farmer
Five-year-old Isaac Boyce plays while wearing his firefighter's hat.

The family settled down in front of the television, never knowing that it would be their last night together.

"We said our prayers together — and then we kissed and said, 'I love you' and 'good-night,'" Lysa Boyce remembered. "Those were the last words (Rodney) ever spoke."

Around 6 o'clock the next morning, young Isaac was awakened by a dream, which he later described to his mother.

"Isaac told me that he heard a bang in his dream and an angel told him that his daddy wasn't breathing," she said.

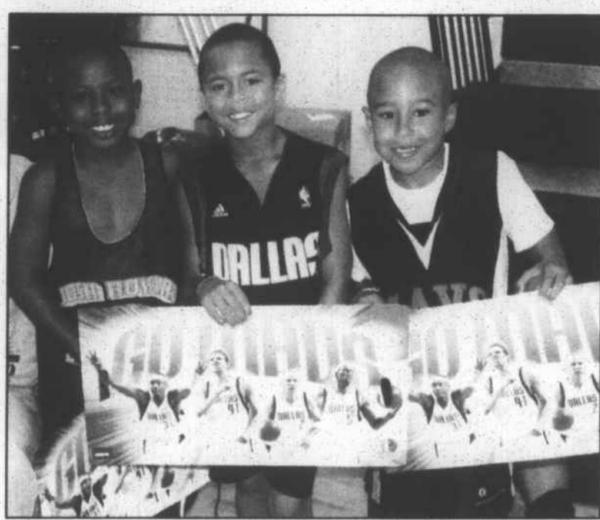
Lysa Boyce was awakened that morning by the sounds of Isaac begging his father to wake up. She found the boy leaning

See Boyce on A5

Happy Campers

Photo by Chad Roberts

Jordan Brown, Malik Poindexter and Kameron Evans show their support for hometown NBA star Josh Howard, who met these kids and others last week at the Anderson Rec Center. Read more on B9.



Competency testing concerns likely to grow

Beginning this school year, students can't advance to high school without passing test

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

A group of parents, school officials and concerned citizens convened at Emmanuel Baptist Church on Tuesday night to probe the issue of a competency test requirement that has kept some students from graduating from high school.

According to Assistant Superintendent Kenneth Simington, two percent of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools' Class of 2009 received graduation certificates in lieu of diplomas this year because of their inability to pass one or more eighth grade competency tests before they completed their senior years.

While some of those represented in that two percent were students with myriad academic issues, there were others who had done well throughout their high school careers, but were denied diplomas because they did not pass the exam, which is given



Photo by Layla Farmer
See Testing on A10 Kenneth Simington addresses those at Emmanuel Baptist on Tuesday night.

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