



Lady Aggies doing well in WNIT

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Demon Drag raises money

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Liberians recognize link with Old Salem

-See Page B1



75 cents

THE CHRONICLE

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THURSDAY, March 25, 2010

Family confronts slavery shame

DeWolf clan were U.S.'s biggest slave traders



BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Dain Perry and his family were featured in a documentary that premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2008, but the subject of the film isn't something Perry or his relatives feel compelled to brag about.

Perry's cousin, filmmaker Katrina Browne, was researching the family's history when she uncovered some unsettling news: her ancestors, the DeWolf family of Bristol, R.I., were the biggest slave traders this nation has ever known. The discovery led the family members on a journey to Africa's west coast, and on a search of their own hearts and souls to reconcile the truth of their heritage, all of which is documented in "Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North."



See Slavery on A2 *Dain Perry and his wife, Constance, at Green Street UMC last week.*



Photo by Layla Farmer
Andre Minkins heads WSSU's burgeoning theater department.

Drama King

Minkins looks to make WSSU a force in theater

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Despite being nestled in the City of the Arts, Winston-Salem State University isn't known for its dramatic flair. Andre Minkins hopes to change that.

Minkins, a writer, producer, director, actor and instructor, took over as director of the Drama Department less than two years ago. Since that time, his mission has been to elevate the program in the eyes of students, staff and the community.

Winston-Salem State does not currently offer a major in theater, but Minkins is hopeful he can generate enough interest in the program to change that. Even for non-majors, lessons learned onstage can prove valuable in life. Minkins said, noting that memorization skills, good diction and confidence can pay off in most any profession.

"It's invaluable the things it brings to the table," he said of theater. "It can build good visibility for the university ... it's a good foot forward for

See Minkins on A9

A VICTORY FOR CHANGE



Official White House Photo by Pete Souza
President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and members of the President's senior staff applaud in the Roosevelt Room of the White House as they watch, via television, the U.S. House pass a landmark health care reform bill on Sunday. The President signed the bill into law on Tuesday.

'Down Low' author urges students to protect themselves

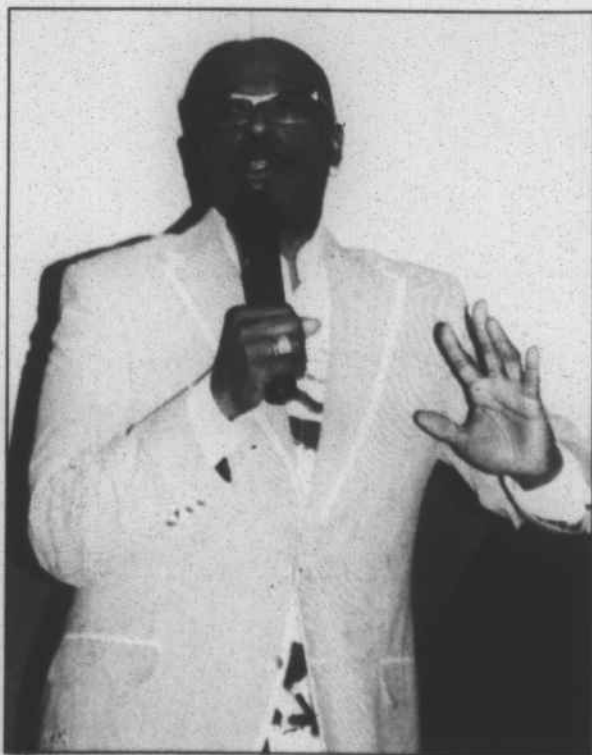
BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Bestselling author, publisher and HIV/AIDS activist JL King visited the Twin City last week, to take part in two community dialogues centered around the issue of HIV/AIDS in the black community.

King - whose debut nonfiction, "On the Down Low: A Journey into the Lives of 'Straight' Black Men Who Sleep with Men," spent 32 weeks on the New York Times Bestseller list and catapulted him to the national stage - led two workshops in the "Us Helping Us" series presented by Speak Life, Inc., a locally based startup organization that seeks to address the myriad issues connected with the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the young, black community.

"The purpose (of the workshops) is really to provide an open dialogue in regard to HIV and the issues surrounding our community, being a young adult and African American, and also to introduce to the community Mr. King, who is also our Advisory Board member," explained Speak Life Founder and Executive Director Judson Fraley.

Fraley says King, now the author of nine books, has been an active member since joining the board earlier this month, and has even announced a personal goal of raising \$10,000 for the organization from



See King on A5 *JL King speaks at WSSU on Saturday.*



Bailey



Marshall



Witherspoon

District A incumbents will face a newcomer

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Residents in District A, which includes much of East Winston-Salem, won't have to wait to Election Day in November to find out who will represent them on the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners.

Since only three Democrats have filed to run for the two seats in the District, the May 4 primary will decide who will represent District A for the next four years.

Incumbent Commissioners Beaufort Bailey and Walter Marshall

face opposition from political newcomer, Everette Witherspoon Jr.

Witherspoon, 32, the owner of Chris's Rehabilitative Services in Guilford County, is making his first bid for political office in this year.

"We have the highest child poverty rate in the state among urban counties; we have the highest infant mortality rate in the state among urban counties," Witherspoon said of his motivation to run. "I think it's time for a change."

Though he is new to politics,

See District A on A11

DON'T PASS THE BUCK

BUY LOCAL



WS CHAMBER

