



Lady Rams get the best of Salem College

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Talk focuses on blacks in Turkey

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Top student poets compete

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FORSYTH COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Photos by Layla Farmer

A state grant paid for the new mobile testing unit.

STD fight will be fought on the streets

Health Department unveils new mobile unit

BY LAYLA FARMER
 THE CHRONICLE

Members of the Forsyth County Department of Public Health's POSSE (Preventing the Spread of STD's Everywhere) team introduced the community to their newest weapon in the war against the spread of sexually transmitted diseases on April 7.

HIV/STD Prevention Supervisor Patrice Toney led a ribbon cutting ceremony outside of the health department to celebrate a new custom-built mobile STD testing unit. The vehicle, paid for by a grant from the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, will be used to conduct off-site HIV and syphilis tests for people in the community, Toney said.

"We plan to take the unit in non-traditional testing locations for those who never come to the Health Department (for testing)," she explained. "We want to make it as easy for people as possible."

The unit contains a private counseling area and a place where team members can draw blood for testing, an on-board refrigerator to safely store blood samples, and an external television where those in line can watch educational videos while they wait to be seen.

"It'll be nice," Syphilis Elimination Effort Coordinator Jennifer Nall said of the unit, which among other things will spare the team from having to resort to coolers to keep samples at optimum temperatures. "It'll make the idea of outreach a lot more powerful."

Health Department Director Tim Monroe believes the unit will help to slow HIV and syphilis infection rates in the area.

"We have a challenge here in Forsyth County," Monroe said, referencing the high STD infection rates in the county. "Hopefully, this will add to our tools to address that. We really do think it'll make a difference in our community."

The new unit will provide enhanced safety for the team —

See POSSE on A2



Photo by Layla Farmer

Longtime friends Tarra Ellis (left) and Kitrinka Gordon have started a new sensation with their Original Tre4 Adult Skate Jams. The monthly parties are drawing hundreds of attendees.

How We 'Roll'

'Grown and sexy' skate parties becoming local craze

BY LAYLA FARMER
 THE CHRONICLE

As girls, longtime friends Kitrinka Gordon and Tarra Ellis say going to the local skating rink was one of the staples of their social lives.

"I lived to go to the (now defunct) Northside Family Skate Center in Winston-Salem every Saturday," said Ellis. "It was a place we could go that was just good, clean fun."

Now, the two women, both 37, are finding that their social outings again often involve a pair of four-wheeled skates.

Since last fall, Ellis and Gordon have hosted a series of "grown and sexy" get-togethers for the 25 and up crowd, known as the Original Tre4 Adult Skate Jam. The events have seen considerable success; more than 650 people flocked to Skate World in Kernersville to take part in a recent Jam. The parties run from 11:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. and feature skating and "old school" dance contests, complete with a deejay and an emcee.

"I knew that this was something that we really, really liked to do when we were younger, and I felt like people

would still want to do it," Gordon said. "I felt like it was a really good idea ... but I didn't know it would get this big."

Gordon, a county employee, says the parties began when she and Ellis started finding old friends on the social networking site Facebook last year. They held several gatherings to re-connect with childhood friends, including a summertime reunion at Winston Lake. They began the skate parties in the fall as a nostalgic gathering where the group could get together and reminisce.

See Skate on A5

Local jobseekers plentiful at annual event

BY TODD LUCK
 THE CHRONICLE



Photo by Todd Luck

Annie Lawson (left) and Yvette Scales (far right) help jobseekers at the Arbor Acres booth.

Princess Walden is among the thousands of people in the Triad looking for work.

She was also among the throngs on hand Tuesday the 14th Annual Employment and Resource Fair at the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum Annex hoping to find gainful employment — something that has eluded her for more than a year. Walden says not even experience — she worked in sales for three years — and education — she has a master's degree — are enough in this hellish economy. These days, Walden carries two resumes — a professional one and a watered-down version designed for the sort of jobs



Princess Walden

See Job fair on A10

FROM VICTIM TO ADVOCATE

Plaintiff in landmark school bullying case shares insight at Wake Law School

BY LAYLA FARMER
 THE CHRONICLE

Jamie Nabozny spent much of his middle and high school years in Ashland, Wisc., dodging his classmates' spitballs and the myriad objects they hatefully hurled at him in the hallways.

The abuse led him to contemplate suicide on several occasions, said Nabozny, who says he was teased and bullied because he is gay.

Today, that experience — and the actions Nabozny eventually took as a result — have made him a bona fide hero in the eyes of many, a beacon of personal strength for gay youth who face discrimination everywhere.

Nabozny was the plaintiff in the 1996 case, Nabozny



Photo by Layla Farmer

Jamie Nabozny speaks at WFU.



Gilreath

See Bullying on A5

A RAM THROW-DOWN



Photo by Layla Farmer

WSSU's Red Sea of Sound marching band performs Tuesday at the Grand Opening pep rally for the BB&T Ballpark. See full story, page A10.

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