



Kudos for WSSU Softball Coach

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Students explore career options

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Angelou celebrates birthday in style

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Photo by Todd Luck

Lia Epperson Jealous speaks.

NAACP's First Lady discusses challenges

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

The first lady of the National NAACP told attendees at the Women of Excellence Conference that the fight against segregated schools and racial profiling isn't over.

Lia Epperson Jealous, the wife of National NAACP President Benjamin Jealous, spoke at the conference, held Saturday by the N.C. NAACP at Union Baptist Church. During the morning, symposiums addressed the resegregation of public schools and health care reform. Jealous spoke during the Conference's 55th Annual Mother of the Year Coronation that afternoon. The Conference was attended by presidents, officials and members from more than 40 NAACP branches

Barber

across the state.

Jealous, a Harvard alumni, met her husband while doing a fellowship at the NAACP in 1993. She would later serve five years as a litigator for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. Currently, she teaches constitutional law.

"I'm a lawyer ... I'm an educator; I'm an advocate; I'm a mother; and a wife in the movement," she said.

Recently, she attend the funerals of three deceased civil rights figures: past NAACP President Rev. Dr. Benjamin Hooks; entertainer Lena Horne; and civil rights advocate Dorothy Height. Jealous said Height, a longtime president of the National Council of Negro Women, didn't stop fighting for civil rights until she died. Jealous said it was women like Height that inspired her to join the "movement."

"It's women like this who have all understood the struggle is a never-ending process," said

See NAACP on A5

Lives Once Interrupted Are Back on Track

Adults earn GEDs, diplomas

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

Last Thursday evening, 293 students took a step towards a better future.

All of those who graduated from Forsyth Technical Community College's GED and Adult High School programs have high hopes now that they have finally attained a goal that, in most cases, had long eluded them.

FTCC's GED (General Educational Development) testing program offers a high school equivalency diploma for those who pass all five parts of the GED test. The college's AHS offers on-site and distance learning classes to students who want an actual high school diploma.

The ceremony took place at Wait Chapel on the campus of Wake Forest University.

Mayor Allen Joines gave the keynote address, telling graduates that the economy is transitioning to one based on knowledge, making education even more vital for those looking to compete in this new workforce.

See Grads on A2

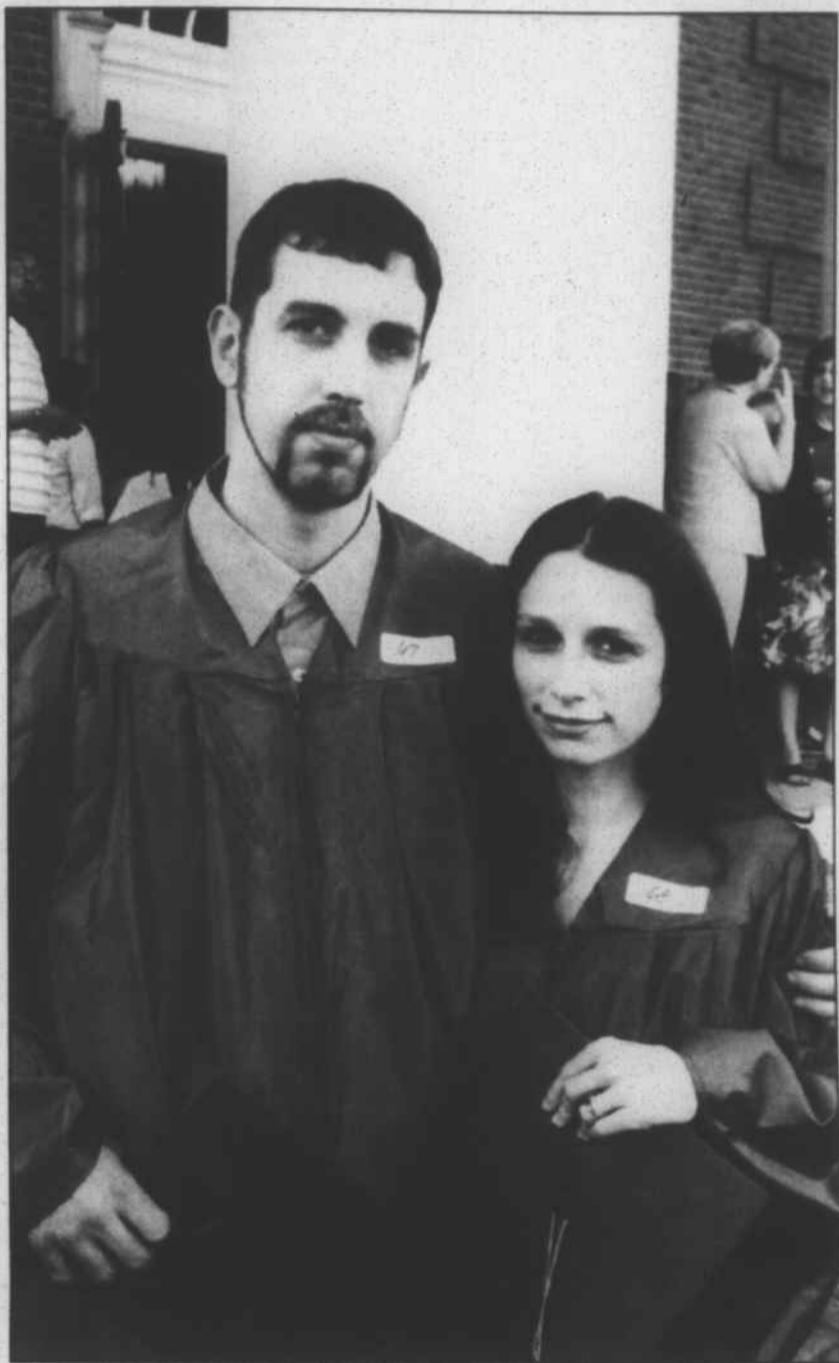


Photo by Todd Luck

James Pulliam and his wife, Andrea, and Antonio Brown, pictured to the left, got their GEDs together last Thursday.

YWCA leader works to break family stroke cycle

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

For the last 15 years, YWCA of Winston-Salem CEO Florence Corpening has led countless women to better health through a variety of fitness and wellness programs, initiatives and incentives. Yet, it took a personal tragedy to shift Corpening's focus to her own health.

Corpening, 62, a native of Lenoir, lost her youngest sister, Sharon "Jo Jo" Chapman, to stroke in January. Chapman, director of the Living Center Concepts Group Home and Guardian-en-Lieu in Hickory, was only 53 at the time of her death. Corpening, one of six children, was rocked by the tragedy. She and her siblings had buried their mother, Clara Rutherford, also a victim of stroke, nine years earlier, but says that Chapman's death came as a shock to the family because she was relatively

young. "When my mother had the stroke, I didn't think about it. I never thought about it in relation to me. She was older - she was 75 - so we didn't look at it as being part of our family (history)," she admitted. "... (We wondered) 'How do we hold it together when our source is gone?' We never thought about our health."



Daniels

Looking back, Corpening realized Chapman had several of the known risk factors for stroke, and so did many of the other family members. For Corpening, that realization changed everything.

"Everything in life has a trigger, something that makes it real personal to you," she explained. "...After we got over the shock of her death and how do we adjust to it and all that, that was my trigger for me to look at myself."

Corpening began working exercise

See Corpening on A9



Photo by Layla Farmer

eliminating racism empowering women ywca

Florence Corpening lost both her mother and younger sister to stroke.



Photo by Eric Wells

Ron Jones and Larry Tish perform as "Mabel and Esther" in "The Black Jew Dialogues."

UNITY THROUGH HILARITY

New resident to the city works to break down barriers through the arts

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

"Slavery, the KKK and chicken livers" are the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the commonalities between African Americans and Jewish Americans, according to Actor Ron Jones, who has recently settled in Winston-Salem.

The City of the Arts is the first place Jones, an accomplished improvisation actor, has been able to call home in some time. The Washington, D.C.-native gave up his apartment two years ago to travel across the U.S. and to the United Kingdom to stage "The Black Jew Dialogues" with

his friend and co-creator, Larry Jay Tish. "This place just sort of jumped me," quipped Jones, who first visited Winston-Salem last fall for a conference. "It jumped me with its cuteness and its attractiveness. It mugged me with its quaintness. I just fell in love."

Jones and Tish use improvisations, sketches and other creative tools to underscore the idiocy of racism and prejudice and highlight the need for social justice. The show premiered at the Edinburgh (Scotland) Fringe Festival - the largest arts festival in the world - in 2006.



Photo by Layla Farmer

See Jones on A2

Ron Jones

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