



Garcia playing for her native country

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DNA law has some lawmakers fuming

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Black Scouts exhibit opens

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Photo by Layla Farmer
Natasha Gore has worn her hair natural for four years.

GOING NATURAL

Some black women kicking perms to the curb

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

For years, Natasha Gore, 32, was entrenched in what she calls a "love-hate relationship" with her hair. She loved the look of her silky relaxed tresses, but hated the constant maintenance they required.

"I ordered my lifestyle based on my hair," admitted Gore, the executive director of the social networking nonprofit the ECHO (Everyone Can Help Out) Network.

Four years ago, Gore decided to give up her dependency on chemicals and let her hair grow in its natural state. After more than a decade of relaxers, it was not a decision that came easy for her.

"I'd thought about it before, but straight hair was part of my identity," she said. "...Before, the straight hair was me, and it felt like me."

But Gore says she wasn't free to do as she pleased. She lived in constant avoidance of water and humidity, which could frizz her 'do and require time-consuming and costly styling to restore. She often bowed out of activities such as swimming and even turned down an opportunity to go white water rafting with friends because it was just before an out-of-town wedding and she wanted her hair to look nice for the ceremony.

See Hair on A10



Clark

Ex-offenders learn dollars & cents

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

The Darryl Hunt Project for Freedom and Justice feted the graduates of its inaugural Financial Literacy program on July 7 during a ceremony at Mechanics and Farmers Bank on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive.

Eight "homecomers," the term the Darryl Hunt Project uses to describe the ex-offenders it serves, completed the five month program, which was started in February with a grant from the Winston-Salem Foundation's Black Philanthropy Initiative.

Homecomers were selected to participate in the program, based on their interest in financial literacy and their ability to see it through to fruition without missing a class, a requirement for graduation, Pam



Photo by Layla Farmer
From left: Darryl Little, grads Abram Peoples, Jackie Claiborne Hauser, Linwood Skinner of the Hunt Project (rear), Wendy Williamson, grads Toni Vance and Gary Lawson and Rev. Donald Jenkins.

See Graduates on A9



Photo by Todd Luck
U.S. Rep. James Clyburn speaks at the Forsyth County Democratic Party's Annual Gala on Saturday.

Don't Believe the Hype

House Whip says Obama, Democrats have made great progress

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

U.S. Rep. James Clyburn rallied local Democrats for what is expected to be a tough Mid-Term elections year for the party.

Clyburn keynoted the Forsyth County Democratic Party's Annual Gala at the Embassy Suites Hotel on Saturday night. The event is the biggest fundraiser for the local Democratic Party.

As House Majority Whip, Clyburn is one of the most powerful leaders in Washington. He has been a member of Congress since 1993, when the people of South Carolina's Sixth District first elected him.

Clyburn and other speakers like his House colleague U.S. Mel Watt, who represents North Carolina's 12th District, lauded the accomplishments that they say have been made since President Obama took office. Health care reform, protections for credit card users, a fair pay act and stimulus bills were among the legislation that were touted.

"You've got every reason to be proud of what this party is doing," said Clyburn.

See Clyburn on A10



Former U.S. Senate candidate Ken Lewis addresses the crowd.

Medical trailblazer returns to Winston

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Dr. Roderic Pettigrew, a medical pioneer and a high-ranking official at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), presented a glimpse into the future of medicine at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center last Thursday.

Pettigrew is director of the NIH's National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB), which works to develop new medical technologies by merg-

ing physical and biological sciences. Pettigrew is known for his pioneering research in cardiac imaging using Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). His lecture focused on a few of the hundreds of research projects funded by NIBIB grants, which could someday revolutionize medicine.

"We're working now through the advancing technologies at the interface of physical and life sciences to

See Pettigrew on A2



Photo by Todd Luck
NIBIB Director Dr. Roderic Pettigrew



Atala

CHEERS!



Photo by Layla Farmer
Claudia Wiggins is among the local residents taking part in a novel fundraising concept. Read more about Wines for Humanity on page A3.

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