



Ram runners ranked for first time

-See Page B12



Alumni crowns are awarded by WSSU

-See Page A3



Family Day event draws crowd

Celebrating 36 Years of Community Journalism
North Carolina Room
Forsyth County Public Library
660 West Fifth Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

THE CHRONICLE

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No Bull

Local school takes strong stance against bullying

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

When it comes to bullying, Ashley IB Magnet Elementary School is taking matters into its own hands.

The school, home to a population of roughly 500 pre-kindergarten through fifth graders, is slated to culminate its first-ever Anti-Bullying Week today.

Staged during the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School system's Safe Schools Department's Red Ribbon week, Ashley's initiative consisted of a slate of activities from an anti-bullying poster contest, to a presentation by students from Winston-Salem State University and the school's annual staff versus parents volleyball game.

The week, which was funded by an \$1,800 grant from the National Parent Teacher Association (PTA), was centered around promoting tolerance and parental involvement, explained Home-School Coordinator Angela Miller. Ashley was one of only two schools in the state to receive funding for the program from the National PTA.

"The IB (International Baccalaureate) traits that we stress pretty much focus on inclusiveness and celebrating diversity," said Miller. "If we celebrate diversity, I feel that there won't be much opportunity for bullying because nine times out of 10, bullying is kind of inspired by those differences in others, those things that stand out."

With the rash of teen suicides that have taken place across the nation recently, bullying is at the forefront of many people's minds, but for those who work on the ground at schools everyday,

See *Bullying* on A9

'Hot Dog Lady' opens cafe

East Winston eatery offers Island classics, meatless options and more

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Before Cheryl Clark began selling hot dogs on the streets of Winston-Salem, she and her husband, Tarus, were living in a rental home and working for minimum wage. Now, the two Winston-Salem natives are the proud owners of a house and a new restaurant, the Eastway Cafe.

The restaurant, which is located in the Eastway Shopping Center on New Walkertown Road, serves a variety of dishes hailing from a unique fusion of cuisines that Cheryl has dubbed "Jamaican Soul Food." Many of the dishes, which range from fried chicken to ox tails, are accompanied by greens and other sides that are not cooked in meat, as is often the soul food tradition. This is because Cheryl, ironically, doesn't eat meat. The restaurant also has veggie burgers and veggie hot dogs on the menu, all cooked with Tarus' custom blend of spices, which the restaurant

See *Clarks* on A5



New businessowners Cheryl and Tarus Clark.



'Transformers' lives up to name

Men graduate from lives of addiction, hopelessness

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Men, many of whom struggled with addiction and were once homeless and hopeless, attested to the power of faith and good guidance last Friday at a graduation ceremony for the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission's Transformers Program.

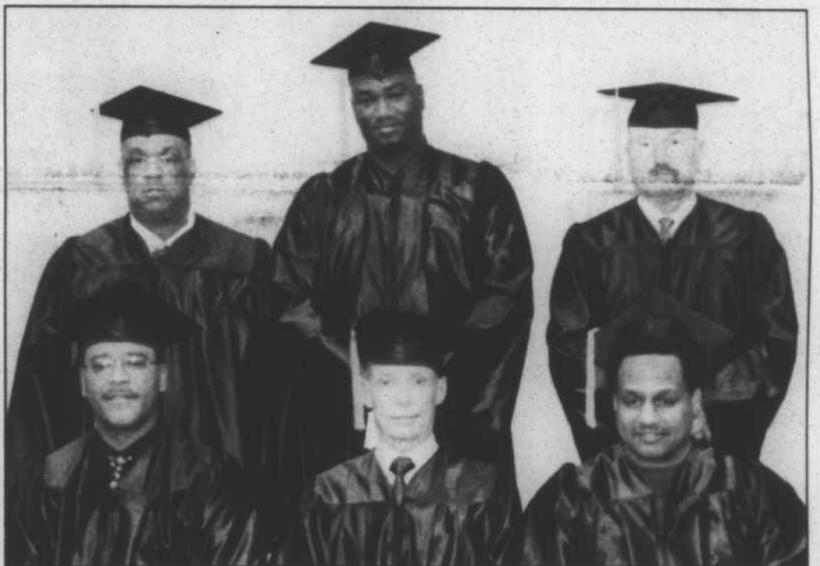
The Rescue Mission operates a Christian-based homeless shelter for men recovering from alcohol and drug addiction. Its regular recovery program lasts 90 days. The Transformers Program, which is housed in the Rescue Mission's newly-built New Life Center, is for men who need more time on their roads to recovery.

Those in the program live at the shelter for at least a year. They work on their sobriety while also taking classes on subjects like leadership, health, financial management and career development. They also take adult education classes in computer skills and GED preparation.

"The purpose of the New Life Center is to really see their lives transformed by the grace of God and to see them become productive members of society," said Rescue Mission Programs Director Greg Cooney.

Intensive "Giant Killers" counseling sessions are also part of the Transformers program. For the sessions, each program participant picks four obstacles or "giants" in his life to overcome.

The six men who graduated last week over-



Photos by Todd Luck

Above: Graduates (front, from left) Allen Greene, Paul Lee, Wesley Wells, (back row) Daryl Martin, Arthur Saunders and Thomas Duggins.



Left: Wesley Wells marches into the ceremony.

See *Transformers* on A10

VERY-MUCH ABLE

Photo by Kevin Walker

Fitness enthusiast Anthony A. Johnson makes his way down the WSSU Homecoming Parade route, alongside floats, motorbikes and vehicles. Johnson is an advocate for those with disabilities. He strives to show through his own actions that people with physical limitations can still be healthy and active.



A Personal Touch

Couple's livelihood, health, relationship intersect

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Twenty-six year old Leonard Atkins can scarcely remember a time when he wasn't hitting the gym.

The former football player and amateur body builder began lifting weights as a pre-teen to get in shape for sports, and he hasn't looked back since.

Last year, Atkins, a certified personal trainer, took his obsession with fitness to a whole new level when he stepped out on his own to open Elite Physique 365, a personal training facility on Northwest Boulevard.



Photo by Layla Farmer

See *Atkins* on A2 *Elizabeth and Leonard Atkins show off their bodybuilding trophies.*

DON'T PASS THE BUCK

BUY LOCAL



WS CHAMBER

