



WSSU's Medley honored for play

-See Page B10



Zumba being used to give back

-See Page A9



A whole day of black history

-See Page B1

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WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, February 23, 2012

STILL AN ANOMALY

City's only three female black firefighters honored

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Wadesboro native Angela Sowell joined the Winston-Salem Fire Department on a dare 18 years ago.

She was working at a local daycare center when the parent of one of the kids, a captain with the Fire Department, mentioned that the Department was hiring.

"I said, 'I betcha I can do it,'" related the Winston-Salem State University alumna. "He said, 'Yeah, right.' I said, 'I can and I will make it a career.' I was hired within six months."

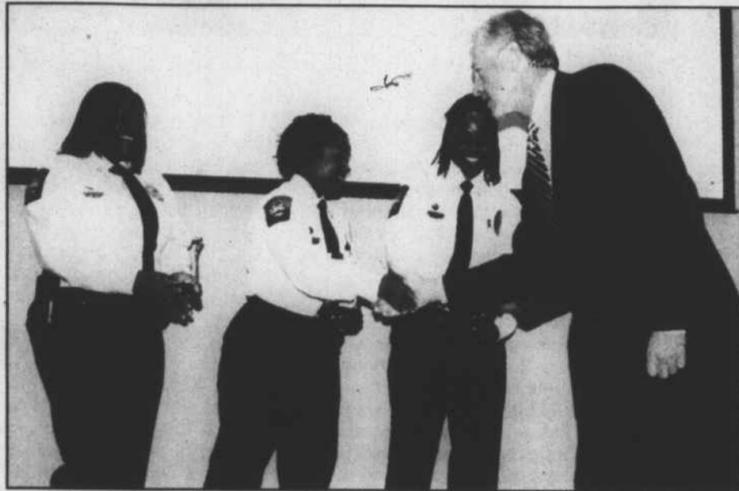
While it was a twist of fate that landed Sowell, a former WSSU cheerleader, in rookie training school, it was nothing short of old fashioned persistence that has sustained the 44 year-old's nearly two-



Farmer

decade long career.

"Once I put my mind to something, I'm gonna go for it full force," she said.



Photos by Layla Farmer

Mayor Allen Joines congratulates (from left): Angela Sowell, Angie Richardson and Shirese Moore.

See Firefighters on A2



Paying it Forward?

Promoters reap benefits of CIAA Tourney, but few support the conference

BY CHERIS F. HODGES
FOR THE CHRONICLE

The CIAA Basketball Tournament has been profitable for the league and the city of Charlotte. Last year, the tournament brought 190,000 fans into the Queen City and made a more than \$44.3 million economic impact.

But in reality, only a relatively small number of fans are shelling out dollars for basketball games and other CIAA-sponsored events. Independent event promoters begin flooding CIAA fans with party invitations right after Valentine's Day, touting tournament week parties. Successful events could mean a gold mine for promoters, but the CIAA - whose basketball tournament is at the center of it all - sees little of this windfall.

Promoters, unless they have clearance by the league, aren't allowed to use the CIAA logo or name to promote their events, but the link between Charlotte's elevated party scene and the CIAA Tournament is quite clear. Some promoters do feel a responsibility to give back to the CIAA.

Take, for instance, Johnson C. Smith University graduate York Reed. He is not a full time promoter, but said that he organizes events around the basketball tournament and his alma mater's homecoming as a way to give back to the university and to provide his classmates and friends with a good time.

"When I saw that our parties



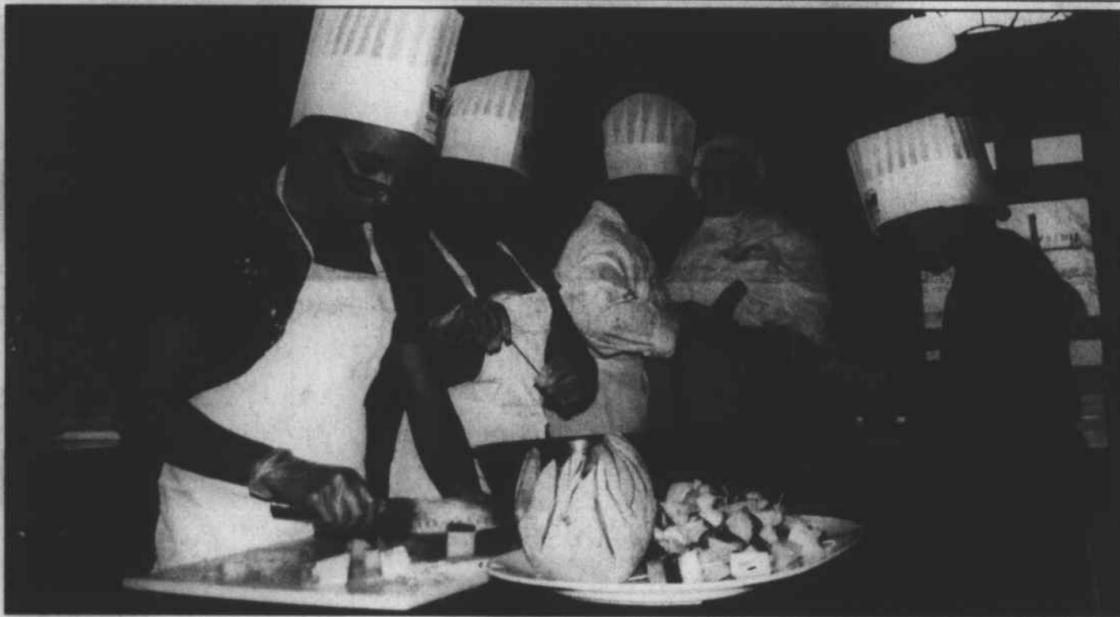
Kitchen

See CIAA on A5

Photos by Todd Luck

Alya Jarvis, Samiya Warren, and Keiomi Grimes cut fruit at the Millennium Center.

Below: Lowes Foods' Cindy Silver and Chef Don McMillan present a certificate to Chef and Child participant Megan Rogers.



Kids help welcome chefs to the city

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Chefs prepare food for others for a living. So when chefs from around the Southeast come to Winston-Salem for an American Culinary Federation (ACF) conference, who prepares the food for them?

The answer, in part, is local children.

Kids got into the culinary action Sunday, preparing nutritious treats enjoyed by attendees at the conference's opening banquet at the Millennium Center. The young helpers are part of Chef and Child, a national ACF initiative that encourages member chefs to teach

children and their parents how to cook healthy meals. The reception was also a fundraiser for both the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina and the Chef and Child Foundation. The general public purchased tickets to attend the event. They were joined by about 300 members of ACF, a professional organization for chefs and cooks with 20,000 members nationwide.

The young cooks hailed from the Arts-Based Elementary School, N.C. Cooperative Extension locations in Forsyth and Stokes counties and Family Services, Inc. Childhood

See Chefs on A6



Mixed response to police checkpoint changes

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

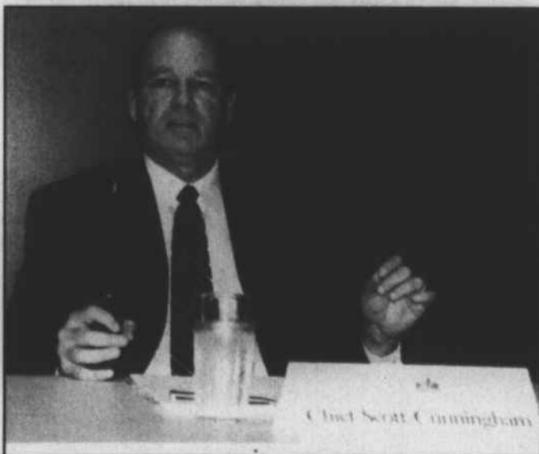
Winston-Salem Police Chief Scott Cunningham tried to calm a growing controversy last week when he announced changes to the Department's stationary license checkpoints policy.

The Police Department came under fire last year, when the North Carolina American Civil Liberties Union began investigating area police departments and asked for records documenting the WSPD's implementation of stationary license checkpoints. The ACLU, which later joined forces with the local NAACP, has said that the records showed 244 checkpoints staged in a 12-month period, the vast majority of which were placed in predominantly minority communities. Attorney Raul Pinto, a racial justice fellow for the ACLU, says he has also received complaints from citizens that minority drivers were being targeted at the checkpoints.



Hairston

See Policy on A6



Police Chief Scott Cunningham is tweaking his department's license checkpoints policy.

Making it Official

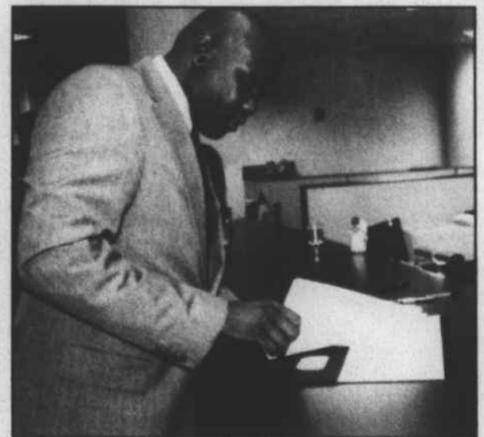


Photo by Layla Farmer

County Commissioner Everett Witherspoon files Tuesday to run for the N.C. House District 71 seat. Read more on page A2.



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