

In Living Color



Photo courtesy of Twin City Stage

The new electronic marquee at the Arts Council Theatre on Coliseum Drive was unveiled to the public for the first time on Aug. 23. Upcoming productions, events and happenings can now be displayed in full-color and with graphics. Here, the marquee touts Twin City Stage's upcoming staging of the comedy/thriller "Deathtrap," which debuts Sept. 14. Go to www.TwinCityStage.org for more information.

Bryant

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With that renewed effort, Bryant's grade point average shot up from 2.4 to 3.6. Beyond being a better student, Bryant became a valuable football player at Starmount High School in Booneville his sophomore year. He persisted in playing football even after he broke his ankle in a scrimmage and doctors told him that if he broke it again, they would have to amputate from the ankle down.

He received a partial scholarship to Catawba College, but decided instead to attend Winston-Salem State to major in justice studies and minor in military science.

During his sophomore year, he was in a car accident that didn't injure anymore. While crossing the road to get to his phone to dial 911, however, he was struck by an oncoming car, knocked unconscious and his left leg was broken.

Even that didn't stop him for long. He wore a brace for a short period of time and then never wore it again. With a deep interest in the military, Bryant had tried to enlist during his sophomore year of high school. His recent bout with cancer made him medically unfit then and even his uncle, an ex-Army man, told him he couldn't make it through basic training with all of the running.

Once again, Bryant started to prove everyone wrong. He became an active participant in ROTC at WSSU, taking on the program's rigorous physical training. It all paid off. This summer, he was Cadet Keith Bryant in the Delta Company for the Leader's Training Course at Fort Knox, Ken. The intense, four-week program is designed to be an introduction to Army life for motivated cadets headed into the Senior ROTC program.

Now, he has gone beyond expected performances, distinguishing himself as a guidon bearer during physical

training runs. The guidon is a military standard that a company or platoon carries to signify their unit designation and corps affiliation. It is the guidon bearer who is responsible for motivating the entire platoon by running at the front of the column.

"In the morning, Bryant circles the whole platoon with the guidon and trie(s) to get them hyped up when they are getting tired," said Sgt. Randon Harvey, a Delta Company drill sergeant.

Bryant scored a 263 out of a 300 on his physical fitness test. He said that even though he isn't the best cadet at the leader's Training Course, he tries to keep up.

"There are things that get to me," Bryant said. "The road marches really hurt my ankle, but that's what I expected. I refuse to quit."

That attitude may finally pay off for Bryant. He is now waiting for a health waiver so that he can contact the Army about enlisting.

Voting

from page A1

sites because he feared more sites would spread Elections workers and equipment too thin.

His 12-site plan excluded both Malloy/Jordan and the Brown/Douglas Recreation Center on Indiana Avenue, another 2008 site. Coffman argued that the Brown/Douglas site was close enough to the Polo Park Recreation Center so that its exclusion would not inconvenience voters. Coffman said he did not include Malloy/Jordan because it was the most

underutilized early voting site in 2008, drawing only 2,333 voters. He also argued that it was less than a mile from the early voting site at the Board of Election's Chestnut Street headquarters.

The plan approved does include the Brown/Douglas, but Malloy/Jordan was replaced with the Old Town Recreation Center off Shattalon Drive to give early voting access to residents of Northwest Winston-Salem.

"We were looking at providing the best coverage around the county," said Coffman.

Money would be a factor if Sutton succeeds in adding the Malloy/Jordan site, according to Coffman. In 2004 and 2008, the county received funds to help offer early voting from the Help America Vote Act, which supplies federal matching dollars. Those funds were not available this year. There are enough funds available to support the 14 sites that were approved, but not for 15, Coffman said.

More than 81,062 Forsyth County residents early voted in 2008. The Board of Elections site alone drew 21,919 voters. The most popular satellite location was the Carver School Road Library, which drew 7,259 voters. That site is moving next door this year to the Forsyth Technical Community College Mazie Woodruff Center. The other East

Winston sites are the Winston-Salem State University Anderson Center, which drew 3,404 voters in 2008, and the Sedge Garden Recreation Center, which drew 3,071 voters four years ago.

Early voting in Forsyth County will begin on Oct. 18 at the Board of Elections and then at limited sites on Oct. 23. All 14 sites will be open from Oct. 29 - Nov. 3.

Early voting proved critical for Democrats in 2008, with then-candidate Barack Obama getting more local votes during early voting than on Election Day.

Forsyth County Democratic Party Chair Susan Campbell said that there will be a big push again this year to get residents to the polls early. Democrats will work to inform people where they can vote and offer rides to the polls to those who need them.

"It's like Election Day every day for two weeks," Campbell said of the early voting window.

Campbell said early voting avoids problems that often arise on Election Day, such as confusion over precincts. It also allows those who aren't registered to do so and then vote on the spot. Campbell said early voting is especially vital for those who don't have cars, which is why she says she was "extremely disappointed" that the Malloy/Jordan site was cut.

"In the inner city, you have more people living there (who) need to get to their polling places and don't have the ease of transportation," said Campbell. "It's a hardship for some people to get the bus money to go to their polling sites."

Minority access to voting has been a subject of national controversy this election year. Voter ID laws, voter registration purges, and restrictions on voter registration and early voting in other states have come under fire, with many accusing Republicans of working to disenfranchise minority voters, who tend to vote

Democratic. A NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll released last week showed President Obama leading among Latinos by a 2-to-1 margin over Republican Nominee Mitt Romney. The poll showed that the president had 94 percent support among African-Americans to Romney's zero percent.



Coffman



Campbell

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