HAPPENINGS

March

Inaugural Authentic Mardi Gras celebration, Wadsworth House, 400 N. Summit Ave., 8 p.m. Zydeco, R&B music and saxophonist Bert

"Quest for Equality: African American Pioneers in the Sport of Basketball,"6 p.m. Afro-American Cultural Center. Charlotte Bobcats center Sean May and Bobcats Assistant General Manger Karl Hicks will discuss basketball's impact in the African American community and the NBA's commitment to youth.

Book signing by romance novelist Ve, 12 p.m. Dynasty Books at Eastland Mall.

EclecFest, RealEyes Bookstore, 3306 N. Davidson St. Flea mall and festival includes kids corner with moon bounce, face painting and games as well as Celtic bands, art and food. Hosted by Brien Blakely of WCCB-TV. Free.

Asmira Woodward-Page and Yusimi Cruz in concert, 8 p.m. at Ovens Auditorium. Selections include Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1, Bolero by Ravel and Malaguena by Lecuona, Brazil and a medley from "Evita." For ticket information, call (704) 543-5551 or log on to www.charlottephilharmonic.org.

Triends of the Library at Queens University of Charlotte will host its annual book and author event at 6 p.m., Burwell Hall. Book and author event/dinner at Young Dining Room, Morrison Hall at 7 p.m. On March 14, a reception will be held at Trexler Center at 11:30 a.m. and author event/luncheon at 12 p.m., Young Dining Room.Emerging authors will be featured, including Dean King, Tommy Hays and Geraldine Brooks. Tickets are \$35 per person with meal included. Reservations must be made by March 10. For information, call (704) 337-2437

Sex & the Second City," Booth Playhouse through March 19. Tickets are \$30-\$35 and on sale at the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center box office by calling (704) 372-1000 or online at www.blumenthalcenter.org.

2 Spring Literary Festival, Central Piedmont Community College. The two-day festival, "Weaving Words from Struggle," includes readings, performances and discussions with writers and publishing professionals. Keynoters include James McBride, Jimmy Santiago Baca and Richard Louv as well as folk artists Sparky and Rhonda Rucker. Free. For information and schedules, log on to www.cpcc.edu/literary.

Soweto Gospel Choir, 8 p.m., Belk Theater. Choir delivers a non-stop pageant of inspirational music and traditional dancing backed by a live band. Tickets are \$22-\$32 and on sale at the Performing Arts Center box office by calling (704) 372-1000 or online at www.blumenthalcenter.org.

Harlem Globetrotters vs. Washington Nationals, 1 p.m., Charlotte Bobcats Arena Barnstorming basketball team celebrates its 80th anniversary. A 30-minute meet-and-greet session

will be held at the end of the game. Tickets start at \$12 and available at the arena box office or online at charlottebobcatsarena.com. Lippazaner Stallions, Charlotte Bobcats

Arena, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. New music, choreography and routines are incorporated in the 36th edition of the show with emphasis on the breed's history. Tickets are \$27.50, \$22.50 and \$19.50 and available by calling (800) 495-2295 or the arena

Robert Preston photography exhibition, Red Sky Gallery at Phillips Place, 6 p.m. Photographs will be on sale to benefit National Multiple Sclerosis Society. For information, call

MARCHING ON



Johnson C. Smith University's marching band helped lead the cheers for the CIAA basketball tournament at a Monday pep rally at Founders Hall.

HISTORY'S NO MYSTERY



Bradley Middle School won the Black History Bowl last week at Freedom Park.

HELLO, BOYS & GIRLS



SunCom Wireless donated \$12,000 to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Charlotte as part of the SunCom Cares program. The donation will be used for Operation Connect, a computer education program in Boys & Girls Clubs in Charlotte public housing. The program will allow more than 550 kids daily access to computer technology and the internet.

THRILL OF VICTORY



Butler High School's girls' basketball team celebrate their Southwestern 4A championship last week after defeating South Mecklenburg High.

THEY'VE GOT GAME



East Mecklenburg High School senior Dane Sparrow and head boys' basketball coach Jason Grube were all smiles after the Eagles won the Southwestern 4A championship last week. East advanced to the N.C. 4A regionals this week.

Notes

Nordstrom SouthPark boutique at Hilton Charlotte Center City, March 1-2. Boutique moves uptown for the CIAA basketball tournament with day-to-evening wear from big-name designers. Open March 1 at 7 p.m., 9 p.m. on March 2. For information, call Hade E. Robinson at (704) 442-6000, extension 6092

Poet Maya Angelou and Alltel are sponsoring the Words of Wisdom Scholarship program, which asks students at historically black colleges: "What words of wisdom will you pass on to those who come after you." Scholarships will be awarded to 10 grand prize winners attending HBCUs, including \$4,000 in tuition and a trip to Little Rock, Ark., to meet Angelou. For details, log on to www.alltel.com/wordsofwis-John or participating Alltel stores. Entries must be postmarked by March 3.

CIAA fashion show featuring Ebony Fashion Fair Models, March 4, 11 a.m., Charlotte Convention Center, 501 S. College St. Tickets \$45. For information, call (704) 378-1045 or log on to www.ciaatournament.org and click on fashion show icon.

Mecklenburg Park and Recreation is offering rides for folks who can no longer use Revolution, Pool. The parks department will provide free rides from Southview Recreation Center, 720 Vilma St.; Amay James Recreation Center, 2425 Lester St. and Arbor Glen Outreach Center, 1520 Clanton Road. To be eligible, children or adults must sign up in advance at any of the recreation centers and schedule the ride three days in advance by calling (704) 353-1250

MOCA party to support veterans March 11, 7 p.m. at VFW Post 9488, 2831 The Plaza. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Sponsored by Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary.

Lockwood neighborhood meeting March 13 at 7 p.m., Sugar Creek Service Center, 4045 N. Tryon St. Guest speaker will be Dawn M. Hill, Lead Hazard Reduction Program, Neighborhood Development Dept. For information, call Jacques D. Kibler III at (704) 375-4993.

Charlotte Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs will host the 48th annual Southeast District Conference March 16-19 at the Omni Charlotte hotel, 132 Trade St. Approximately 200 members from the southeastern U.S. will attend on March 17 at 7 p.m. a free vocal arts competition for emerging artists highlighting classical singers will be open to the public. For information, call Sarah Stevenson at (704) 392-9503.

Registration for Urban League Stepping Up program classes start Feb. 25 and March 11 at 9:30 a.m., at 740 W. Fifth St. Classes for non-native English speakers to improve skills and performance in the workplace, Classes include team-building skills, decision-making and problem solving. Must be 23-45 years of age and have a minimum of one year in the U.S. workplace. For information, call Astrid Chirinos at (704) 451-3978.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary will sponsor National Young American Creative Patriotic Art Scholarships for students in grades 9-12. First place pays \$10,000 in scholarships. Deadline is March 29. For information, call Betty Morris at (704) 535-

Exhibits

"Oh Freedom Over Me," through May 28, Levine Museum of the New South. Photographer Matt Herron's recording of the civil rights movement through the Southern Documen-

"From Apartheid to Democracy," through May 15, Levine Museum of the New South. Exhibit illustrates transformation of South Africa by telling the story of the first 10 years

Concerts, art exhibits and community-oriented events can be submitted to The Charlotte Post P.O. Box 30144 Charlotte, NC 28230. You can fax (704) 342-2160, log on at www.thecharlottepost.com or e-mail editorial@thecharlottepost.com.

MAKING HER MOVE



Madelyn Mattucci moves a chess piece at the State Scholastic Chess Championships at the Charlotte Convention Center. More than 600 students from kindergarten to high school participated in six sections.