

Confederate: Memorial will be dedicated

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tensions or offend anyone. N
There are no such monu-
ments in Gwinnett because at the
time Georgia broke away from
the Union, county officials re-
fused to sign the secession pa-
pers, officials said. Twenty-eight
hundred Gwinnett residents
joined or were drafted into the
Confederate Army.

The flag depicted on the me-
morial, said Lawrenceville Camp
96 member Rick Miller, is not
the Confederate battle flag but is
instead the first national flag of
the Confederacy that Gov. Zell
Miller wanted adopted as the of-
ficial flag of the state of Georgia.

The group appeared before
the Gwinnett County Commis-
sion twice last year before being
granted final approval to erect
the monument. The commission
voted 4-1 and stipulated that no
tax dollars would be used to buy
the memorial. Lawrenceville
Camp 96 raised more than \$7,000
to build and erect the monument
by private fund-raising with the
United Daughters of the Confed-
eracy Gwinnett chapter.

The Rev. Erven Kimble,
chairman of the Gwinnett Hu-
man Relations Commission, said
he hadn't heard any formal com-
plaints, but he still doesn't agree
with the whole concept of a Con-
federate memorial. "I'm looking
more toward what the future
holds for blacks in Gwinnett than
dwelling in the past," he said.

Elizabeth Whitley Roberson,
historian and author of "Weep
Not for Me, Dear Mother" — a
series of letters written home by
a young Confederate soldier
from Lilburn's 6th Regiment —
is the planned keynote speaker of
the dedication ceremony.

Included in the ceremony will
be a 21-gun salute and a bagpipe
rendition of "Amazing Grace,"
which the Sons of Confederate
Veterans say is in deference to
the overwhelming number of
Gwinnett Confederate soldiers
who were of Scottish-Irish an-
cestry.