

Winston-Salem Chronicle

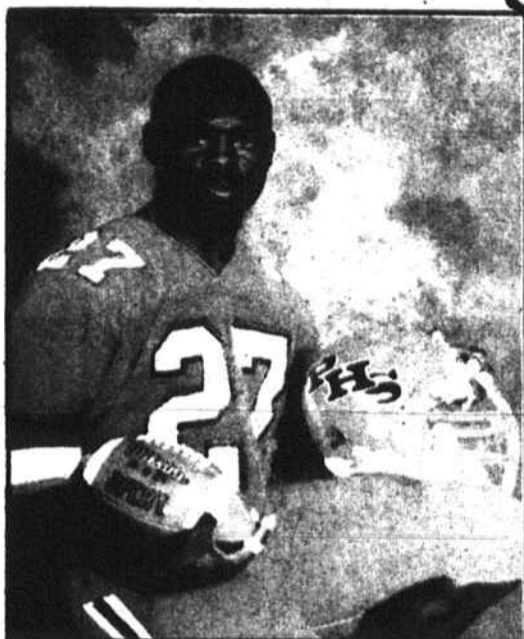
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1993

75 CENTS

"Power concedes nothing without a struggle." — Frederick Douglass

XX, No. 17

Shooting Victim Not Giving Up On Dream



Reginald Leroy Gandy

By SABRINA JONES
Chronicle Staff Intern

Reginald Leroy Gandy is a true fighter. While a linebacker at Parkland High School, he fought off opposing blockers to tackle running backs and quarterbacks. Now he's faced with another battle. Gandy, 19, is fighting to recover from a gunshot wound to the head he suffered last week after two men robbed him outside his home. Gandy was returning home from a basketball game late Friday night and didn't pay much attention to a car he saw following him. After he drove a friend home, Gandy parked his car at his house on Harvard Road and saw two men stooping behind it. "I thought they were hiding from some-

one up the street," he said. Gandy noticed the men as he walked down his neighbor's driveway. They then stood up and demanded him to lie down on

grazed me." Gandy was shot with a small-caliber handgun about 11:52 p.m. The bullet entered his head just in front of his left ear, striking

After being hospitalized for a few days at Baptist Hospital, Gandy is now resting at home. The front room of the quaint house in South Winston off Clemmonsville Road is decorated with brightly colored balloons bearing the condoling messages of "Get Well Soon."

Gandy was an all-conference linebacker at Parkland and planned to play football at Elizabeth City State University next year. Gandy's room contains several awards of athletic recognition, such as the Coaches Award trophy he received from Parkland in 1992, the year he graduated. He said his doctors are still uncertain if he will be able to play sports again.

Those who know him cannot believe see SHOOTING page A2

"If you can't stand in your own yard without being shot at, I don't know where you can," victim's grandmother said.

the ground while they took off his gold ring and chain. One of the men put a gun to Gandy's head and pulled the trigger. "When they shot me I didn't think I was shot," Gandy said. "I thought the bullet just

and shattering his right cheek bone. The bullet is still lodged in his cheek bone. The suspects, who wore masks and hoods, took off running after the shooting. No arrests have been made.

LIVING WITH AIDS

Victim Says 'It Ain't No Play Thing'

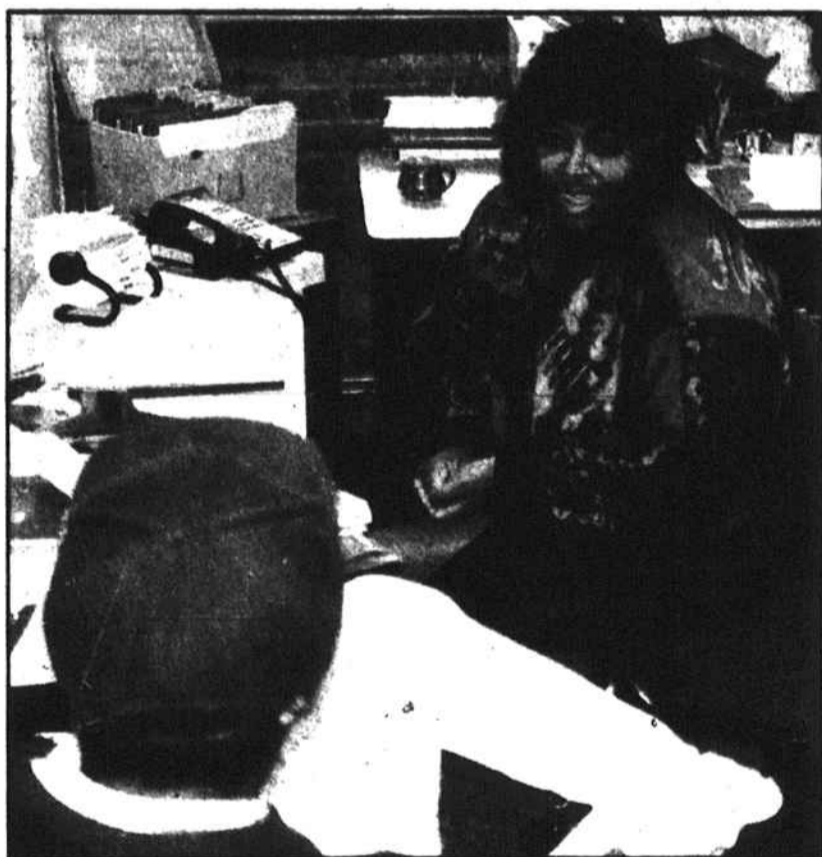
By DAVID L. DILLARD
Chronicle Staff Writer

Preston Davis used to be more sociable in his neighborhood. But for more than the past year, he has created a shell for himself.

He lives inside of it. Davis created that shell shortly after July 1992. That was when he was diagnosed as being HIV-positive — carrying the virus that causes AIDS. Davis, 26, does not have AIDS, but he chooses to live in seclusion from everyone except his immediate family. "It has changed my life a whole lot," a solemn Davis said in a recent interview. "People I used to hang out with, I don't hang out with no more. I don't have a social life anymore." Davis said he contracted the virus through unprotected sex.

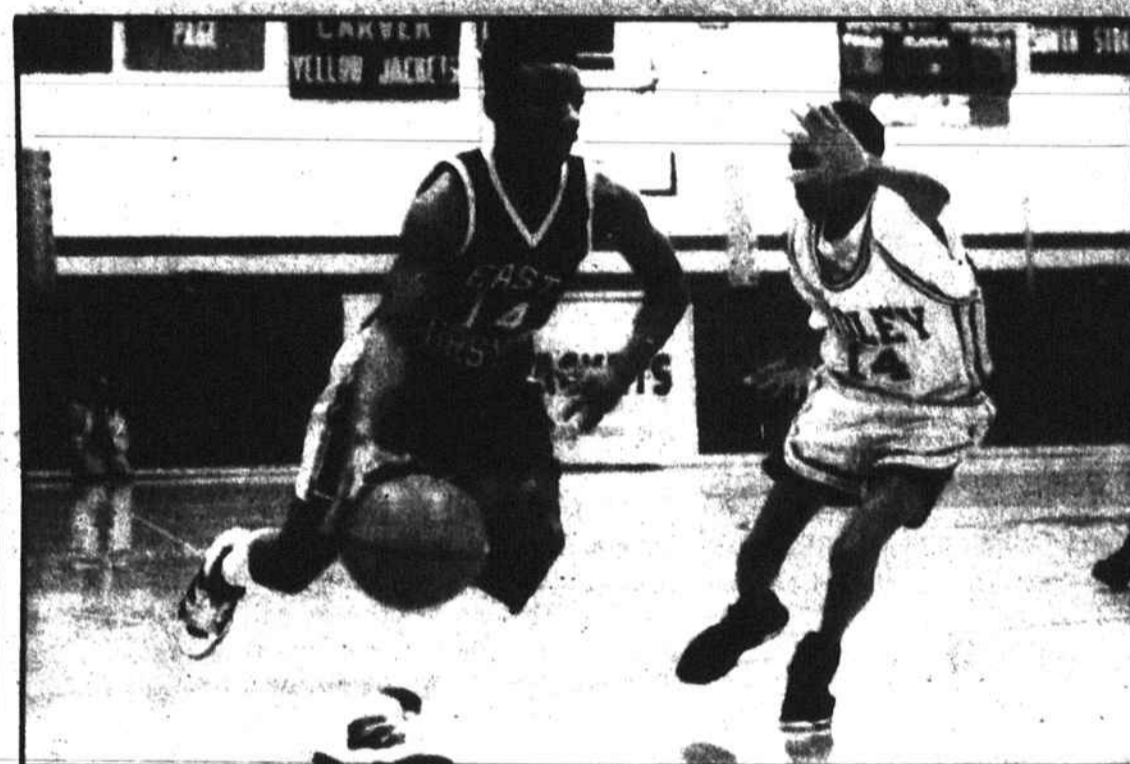
He keeps busy by gardening, fishing and volunteering his services to the AIDS Taskforce. "I just want to help out," he said. "People need to know it's here and it ain't no play thing."

see VICTIM page A3



Marilyn Stafford of the AIDS Task Force chats with a client about the dangers of the AIDS virus.

LASH/CHRONICLE TOURNAMENT



Ahmad Powell of East Forsyth (top) drives against Dudley's Derick Thompson in first-round action of the Lash/Chronicle Junior Varsity Basketball Tournament at Carver High School. At right, former Carver Athletic Director David Lash takes in action. (See stories on page B1)



Supporters Rally For Womble in Run for House

By MARK R. MOSS
Chronicle Staff Writer

It was obvious from the number of African-American power brokers at Larry Womble's side last week, that they supported the former alderman's candidacy for the N.C. General Assembly seat of retiring Annie Brown Kennedy. And some of those same supporters say that Womble shouldn't change his somewhat aggressive, sometimes contro-

versial style to accommodate a larger constituency. Womble announced at a news conference Friday that he was going to run for the 66th District seat that Kennedy will relinquish after her term expires at the end of 1994. Kennedy, who has held the seat for five terms, announced to the Chronicle last week that she will not seek re-election when her term expires. Womble, who also retired Friday from his position of assistant principal at

Paisley Middle School, was defeated in his re-election bid for alderman of the Southeast Ward. Womble, the first African-American alderman to preside over a predominantly white ward, lost to Robert Nordlander Jr., a 22-year-old white Republican. "As I announce my candidacy for state House," Womble said at the news conference, "I would also like to acknowledge my retirement from the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County school

system. After more than 30 years of service, I feel grateful to have had the opportunity to serve in a career (education) that is so vital to a community. . . . I am now free to give full time of myself to the citizens of Forsyth County in representing them in an elected position." Larry Little, a lawyer and former alderman who teaches at Winston-Salem State University, will manage Womble's see SUPPORTERS page A5

WOMBLE'S PRANKS

- Led effort to establish the citizen's police review board
 - Re-elected alderman four consecutive times
 - Responsible for creating separate police and fire departments
 - Helped create the Buy-Rehab Housing Program
 - Founding member and former president of the N.C. Black Elected Municipal Officials
- ### ...AND VALLEYS
- Indicted on bribery charges
 - Created All-America City controversy when clandestinely written letter is exposed
 - Uses city secretary for personal business
 - Accused of placing job ambitions ahead of constituents
 - Loses fifth re-election bid to 72-year-old political neophyte

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THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

On Dec. 25 Jupiter Hammon, a New York slave who was probably the first black poet, published An Evening Thought. Salvation by Christ, with Penitential Cries.

Black Asst. Top Contender for School Head

By DAVID L. DILLARD
Chronicle Staff Writer

Larry Coble said he has had enough! The superintendent of the city/county school system abruptly announced his decision to resign from his post last week, and an African American has emerged as a possible candidate for the interim position. Joseph Johnson, the only African-American associate superintendent, worked with Coble previously at the Rocky Mount school system.

Douglas Pungler, attorney for the city/county school system, said the three associate superintendents are possible choices to lead during the interim period. Previously, Johnson was one of two finalists for the superintendent position for the New Hanover County school system — a position he said he was denied because of race. "As far as I know (Johnson's) qualified," said Geneva Brown, one of two blacks on the school board. "People need to look at ability and what they can do instead of color or party, but we live in that kind of

world." Coble said he left the school system to pursue something new and because of stress related to partisan politics of school board members. "I have the opportunity to deal with (educational) problems at a different level," Coble said. "The stress eventually catches up with you. . . ." Brown said she felt that bickering among board members played a part in Coble's decision to resign. see BLACKS page A2