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**Coach has dedicated life to youngsters**  
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**Lawyer is honored by peers**  
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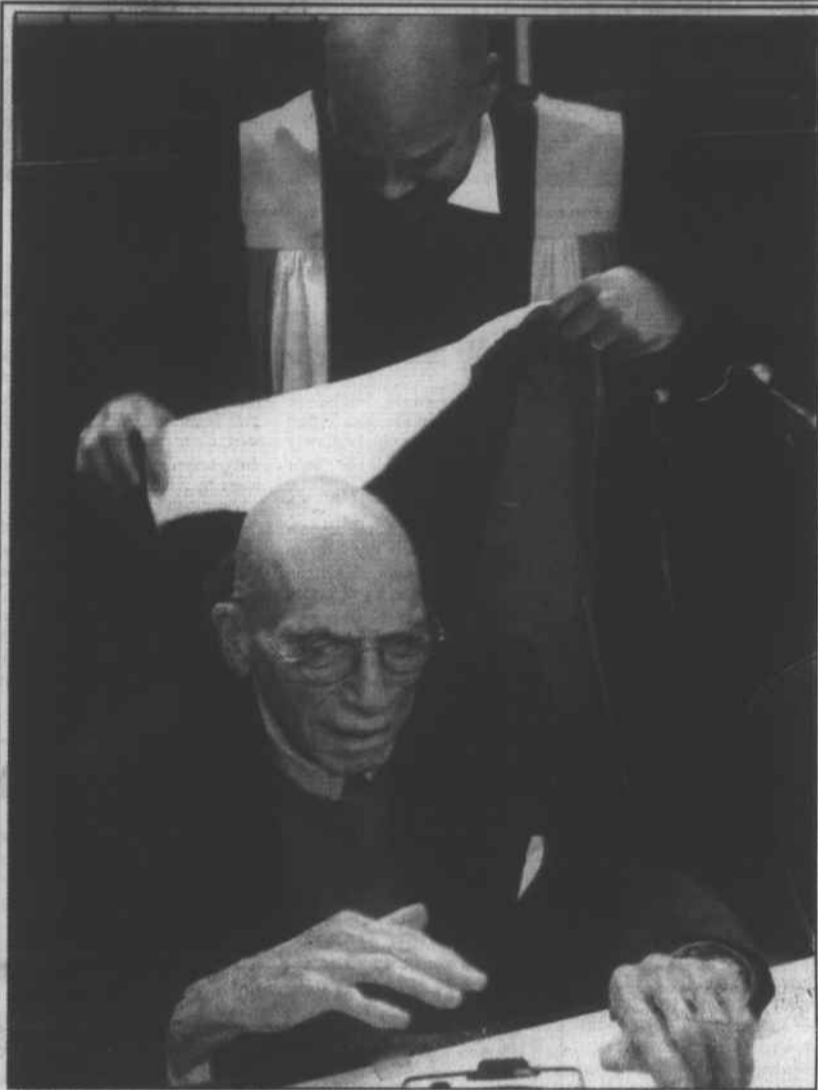
**Kwanzaa is off to great start in the city**  
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# THE CHRONICLE

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2005



## Son to Father

N.C. A&T Photo

Radio personality Tom Joyner, a recent recipient of N.C. A&T State University's honorary Doctor of Humanities degree, made an unrehearsed gesture Dec. 17 at N.C. A&T's Fall Commencement by placing the doctoral "hood" in ceremonial fashion on his father, seated in the audience. The senior Joyner, to whom Tom referred as "Paps," graciously accepted. Tom Joyner served as the commencement speaker, giving words of inspiration and wit to more than 740 graduates.

## BEYOND BORDERS

### Parkland students show support for first-time voters in Iraq

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Parkland High School was one of dozens of schools across the country that symbolically showed their support for the Iraqis who voted in historic, democratic elections in that country on Dec. 15.

The Purple Fingers for Freedom campaign had caught fire at schools in the United States in the weeks leading up to the Iraqi elections. Iraqis voted for the party and candidates of their choice by putting their index fingers on purple ink pads and then placing their fingers on paper ballots next to their choices.

A 10-year-old in Montana, Shelby Dangerfield, wore purple dye on his finger on the day of Iraq's first round of historic elections back in January.

"It will symbolize our support if we wear ink on our fingers," Shelby told the Billings (Mont.) Gazette. "We're not forcing them to vote, but they have a chance to do it and they should take that chance."

Students in schools all across the land have since followed her lead. Many schools who take part say Purple Fingers for Freedom is about supporting the idea of Iraqis and their newly-gained right to vote and not about the politics of the war itself or the man who pushed for the war, President George Bush.

"It was fascinating to watch students and faculty separate their views on the war from their support for worldwide suffrage," said Tripp Jeffers, the chair of Parkland's history department. "Regardless of one's feelings toward the war and its origins, most come to the conclusion that the right to vote is inherently good."

Jeffers organized Parkland's Purple Fingers for Freedom program.

Parkland also had another reason for taking part. This year, the school became an International Baccalaureate Diploma magnet school. Part of the new program's mission is to get students to think globally and ultimately make them productive "citizens of the international community."

Wendy Bartlett, the director of magnet schools for the county, called Parkland's effort "excellent illustration of our school's new focus on internationalism."

Beginning on Dec. 19, Parkland students and faculty donned purple fingers. The school was slated to take part on Dec. 15, the actual day of the Iraqi elections. But schools were closed that day due to a nasty ice storm.

Some students also wore purple clothing and ribbons. At least one student even attempted to dye her hair purple.

The activities did not begin and end with the purple ink at



Parkland High School Photo  
A Parkland High School student shows off his purple ink-covered finger.

## Money being raised for Lash award

BY SANDRA ISLEY  
THE CHRONICLE

Apparently, success does come with a price tag, and for those involved with remembering the success of local tennis legend David Lash, the price tag associated with him cost \$12,500. That is the amount needed to cover the cost of an award to be named in memory of Lash.

The award, Junior Female Player of the Year from North Carolina, will be given annually by the N.C. Tennis Foundation.

Lash's widow, Wilhamena, has endorsed the award as a fitting way to represent her husband's legacy. Wilhamena was a witness to Lash's caring attitude for his students and other young people as he created an athletic program for children at the middle grades level and offered tennis shoes



David Lash's widow, Wilhamena, holds his picture.

as a reward for those who made honor roll.

As for Beth Hopkins, the campaign committee facilitator, the decision to honor Coach Lash's memory by naming a tennis award after him was an easy one. She arrived in Winston-Salem more than 23 years ago. Hailing from Petersburg, Va., Hopkins explained that the town did not have tennis courts for blacks to play on. If blacks were caught playing on the courts, they would have been arrested.

After arriving in Winston-Salem, Hopkins met Coach Lash at a tennis court. She informed him that she was interested in learning the game. "I can't remember exactly how I met him, but everybody knew him. I just went up to him and told him I

See Lash on A11

## PRAISE IN PRACTICE

### Church opens its doors to those in need of food, holiday cheer

BY TODD LUCK  
THE CHRONICLE

Last Thursday, Shiloh Baptist Church on East 12th Street opened its doors to treat the needy to a traditional Christmas meal.

The church's first-eyer "Dinner Served to the Homeless" lasted from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. with about 50 volunteers helping with the effort at various times during the day. Turkey, ham, candied yams, green beans and



Lowe

other foods filled the plates of the homeless and anyone else who came through during the event.

The church got the word out about the event in every way it could, including fliers that were posted around town and a radio ad. And the efforts were successful. Within the first hour, approximately 75 people were served.

"It's a vision of the pastor's, and we just fulfilled it," said event coordinator Doris

Hunt. Dr. Paul Lowe, the pastor of the more than 800 member church, said he wanted to do something to help the homeless. The church gave away food baskets though Social Services last year. The church gave away baskets again this year, but Lowe and his congregation wanted to do more.

Lowe took some inspiration from Glide Memorial United Methodist Church in San Francisco, whose Free Meals Program serves breakfast, lunch and dinner to the needy every day. The program serves 1 million meals annual-

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Members of Shiloh Baptist Church serve food.



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