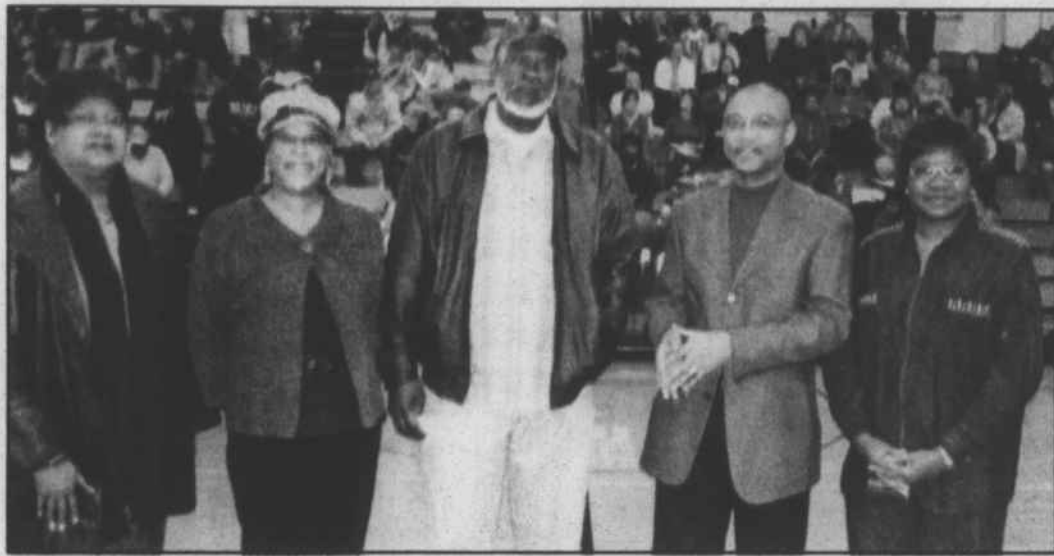


# Atkins Class of '70 gives to W-S Prep

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Members of the Atkins High School Class of 1970 presented a \$615 check to to Principal Richard Watts of the Winston-Salem Preparatory Academy, which is now housed in the former Atkins High building, on Thursday, Feb. 10.



Principal Watts (second from right) with Atkins alumni Jean Moses-Petree, Mary Wall, Reggie Brown and Judy Williams.

Jackie Phinx, Jean Moses-Petree, Carolyn McWillis, Gail Wilson, Mary Wall, Reggie Brown, Arnold Harper and Wardell

The Class of 1970 meets monthly for planning, fellowship and to continue the Atkins legacy.

The donation was spurred by a challenge made to the Class last year by Class President Harold Epps, who asked his classmates to reach back into the community and lend a hand. Class member Judy Williams recommended that her classmates support Winston-Salem Prep. The suggestion was his welcomed by Reunion President Malcolm Lewis and other members of the Class.

The contributing class members were: Lewis, Epps, Williams, Lectrice Adams, Melvin Nellums, Arnold Harper and Wardell

## Book fair

from page B1

ing the two-hour fair. She said Vigils is still deciding whether to use the leftover books for future book fairs in honor of Isaiah or donate them to a charity that serves children.

Ike Black, director of the Community Center, said it took almost all day Friday to set the books up. He was very glad to see the massive book fair at LaDeara Crest.

"This is great, I'm really overwhelmed at the response from the community," said Black.

The Community Center regularly holds a variety of educational activities for youth, and the book fair was no different. There was storytelling by Pat "Mardia" Stepney, founder of the NC Association of Black Storytellers. Winston-Salem Police Officer C.E. McCoy of the Crime Prevention Unit brought coloring books on public safety for kids. Young Raja Huntley even had her own reading corner where she read books to other children. Refreshments, including fruit punch and popcorn, were also served.

Patricia Dodd, a LaDeara Crest resident, got a couple bags of books for her adoptive daughter Aaliyah. She said she was a friend of Isaiah's family and called Isaiah a "wonderful child." Dodd believes the fair was a great way for people to meet the family and get books for their children.

"It's uplifting," she said. "It's a thing to bring the community together."

Isaiah was the youngest of eight children, many of whom attended the fair and helped make it a success. Isaiah's adult sister Alice Stephenson and her daughter, Tiara Jordan, 16, were among them. They both fought back tears as they recounted their memories of Isaiah. Stephenson lived just four blocks from Isaiah and said he visited her house every weekend. She said he was an avid reader who would've loved the book fair.

"He's funny, he's witty and loves a crowd of peo-



Members of Isaiah's family on hand for the Book Fair.

Photos by Todd Luck



Patricia and Aaliyah Dodd were among the attendees.

ple," said Stephenson.

Jordan had many cherished memories of Isaiah, who would've graduated this year. She said he was "a lot of fun." She fondly recalled Halloweens together and how he had the best hiding places during games of hide and seek.

"He was always going around making jokes, making people happy and bringing people together," said Tiara.

Isaiah's mother, Barbara Stephenson, said she "couldn't keep him away from a book" and that if Isaiah

could have been there Saturday, he'd have picked out a large stack of books for himself. Stephenson says she still wonders why someone would take Isaiah's life, since he wasn't a problem child and didn't bother anyone. Stephenson said she's trying to stay strong and is still hopeful that someone will come forward with information about her son's death.

"I'm willing to forgive them for what they did, but I just want to know why they take his life and what did he do?" said Stephenson.

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