

Here comes the Judge



4th quarter Disaster



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SAVE THE DATES

Spring Football Game - April 9, 2016 - 1 p.m.

Second Annual Athletic Celebration of Excellence Awards (ACE) April 23, 2016 - 6 p.m.

Dept of Athletics Auction - Aug. 5, 2016

SCHOLARSHIP MONTH 2017:
Feb. 4 - Don't Score. Win!
Feb. 11 - She's Got It Covered, A Classy Hot Affair

• See Opinion/Forum pages on A6&7 •

• See Sports on page B1 •

THE CHRONICLE

Volume 43, Number 23 — WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — THURSDAY, February 11, 2016

N.C. awaits appeal over districts

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

It's more election uncertainty, as a federal court ruled that two congressional districts, one of which includes a part of Winston-Salem, were racially gerrymandered and needed to be redrawn before elections are held for either seat.

North Carolina appealed the case with a motion to stay the decision. That stay was rejected Tuesday, so now the petition will move to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The two districts are the 1st District, represented by G.K. Butterfield, and the 12th District, represented by Alma Adams, both black Democrats. The 12th includes part of Winston-Salem.

The three judge panel ruled Friday, Feb. 5, that the districts were redrawn in 2011 to pack minority

voters into districts that already were heavily minority, lessening their voting power in the rest of the state in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

While courts allow districts to be gerrymandered for partisan advantage, race is not supposed to play a factor. The court has ordered the districts redrawn by Feb. 19. This will require the governor to call the General Assembly back for a special session and any redrawn districts would once again have to be approved by the U.S. Justice Department.

The primary is March 15 and absentee voting has already begun. More than 8,600 absentee ballots

have been sent out by the state Board of Elections. As of last Friday, the state BOE had already received more than 400 completed absentee ballots and is encouraging people to fill out the entire absentee ballot, despite the uncertainty.

In a statement, Sen. Bob Rucho and Rep. David Lewis, the Republican chairs of the House and Senate Redistricting Committees, said because of the ruling, voters no longer know when the primary election will be and absentee ballots could be tossed out.

"We are confident our state Supreme Court made the right decision when it upheld the maps drawn

when the primary election will be and absentee ballots could be tossed out.

See Districts on A8



Rep. Adams



Rep. Butterfield

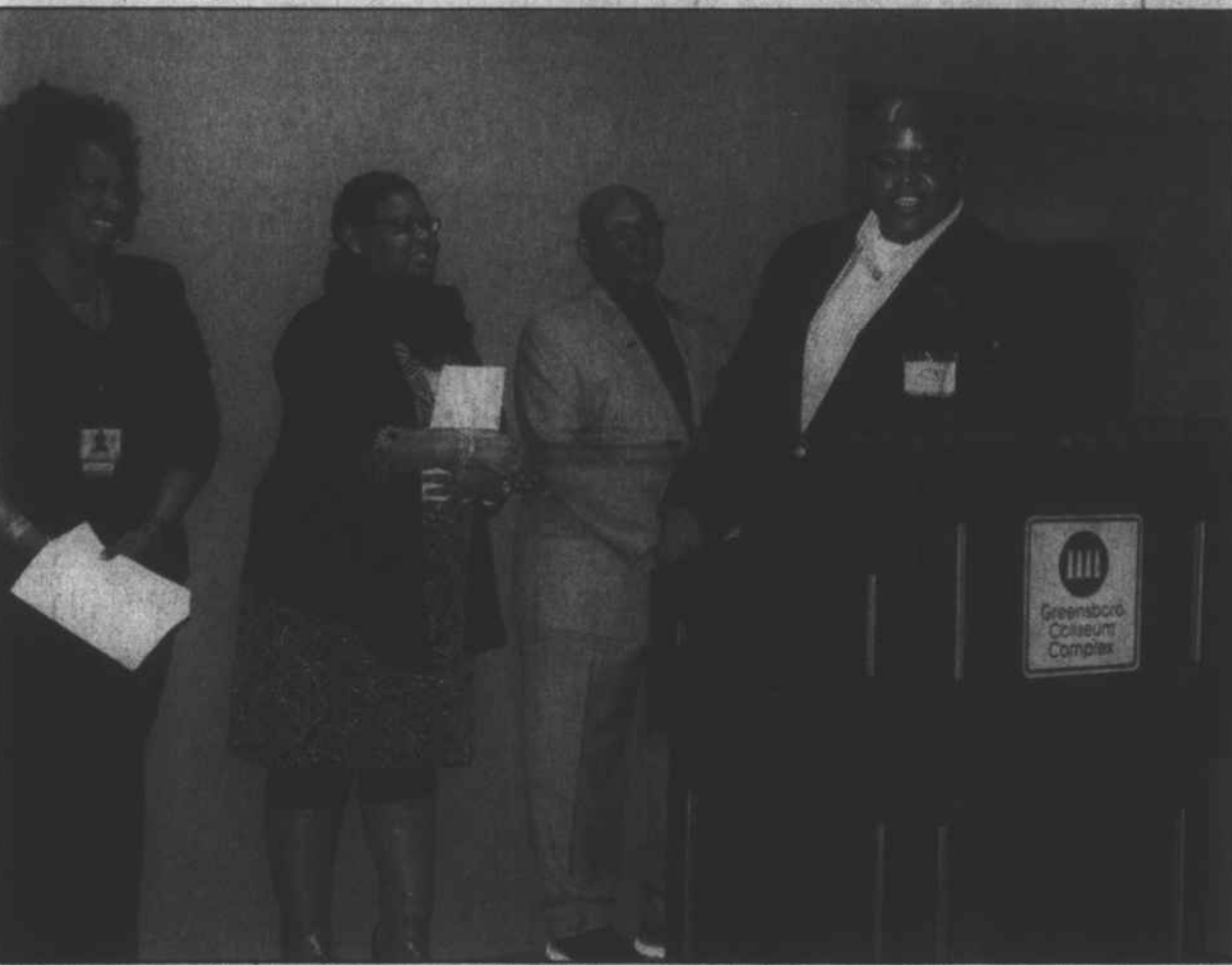


Photo by Timothy Ramsey

Avery B. Hall Sr. of Winston-Salem accepts his Rhythms of Triumph award for his work in the community.

Local banker gains award for community leadership

BY TIMOTHY RAMSEY
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Many national figures are honored for their contributions to the community but those on the local level sometimes do not receive their just due.

In honor of local leaders, the McDonald's owners of the Triad led by notable community leader and McDonald's owner James "Smitty" Smith and his son Adrian, along with Entercom Radio, held the Rhythms of Triumph awards on Saturday, Feb. 6, at the Greensboro Coliseum.

Three awardees were selected from Greensboro, Winston Salem and High Point.

The Winston-Salem nominee was Avery B. Hall Sr., who is senior vice president and business banking manager at Wells Fargo and former All-American football player at Appalachian State University. Hall is also a member of the Rotary Club of Kernersville, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, and Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church.

When asked what this award meant to him Hall said, "It means a lot because to be recognized for the things you do in the community is an honor and a pleasure. Also to be

See Award on A2

W-S NAACP heads to Moral March rally on Saturday

BY CASH MICHAELS
FOR THE NCBPA

The political stage is set for this Saturday's 10th annual Moral March in Raleigh/HK on J People's Assembly, kicking off at 8:30 a.m. with a pre-march rally at 2 East South Street near Shaw University in downtown Raleigh, with a march down the Fayetteville Street Mall to the steps of the State Capitol kicking off at 10 a.m.

It is called the "Get Out The Vote Gathering and Mobilization," sponsored by the N.C. NAACP and the Forward Together Movement. The People's Assembly at the Capitol will end at 12:30 p.m.

The Winston-Salem Branch of the NAACP will be headed to the march. The organization will be traveling by bus with other local residents. Members will take part in the activities, including get-out-the-vote training. The organization has been mobilizing in Winston-Salem, along with its partners - the Voting Rights Coalition, Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity and others - to get committees in place for the 2016 elections.

At the assembly, there will be voter registration for the tentative March 15 primaries (tentative thanks to a federal appeals court ruling last Friday throwing out redistricting maps for the 1st and 12th Congressional Districts, and ordering that they be redrawn within the next two weeks. Winston-Salem is in the 12th District).

Following the Moral March on Raleigh, there will be a Souls to the Polls training about how faith communities can register, educate, and mobilize their congregations and communities to the polls.

On Friday evening, Feb. 12, there will be a pre-Moral March/People's Assembly mass meeting and worship service, featuring Rabbi Fred Guttman, starting at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 101 S. Wilmington Street in Raleigh.

The agenda, as always, for the Moral March, includes the expansion and protection of voting rights;

See March on A2



Rev. Barber

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WSSU HOMECOMING 2016

SAVE THE DATE

10.15.16