

COMMUNITY

Hundreds Turn Out For Church's Bicentennial Parade

By BETH GLENN
Chronicle Staff Intern

Goler Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church on Fourth Street hosted a bicentennial celebration this week as part of the annual Western North Carolina Conference.

Over 700 area church members participated.

The celebration began with a parade up Martin Luther King Jr. Drive from Bowman Gray Stadium. Member churches of the Western North Carolina conference contributed floats showcasing community outreach programs, youth and church leaders.

There was also a business and information fair featuring African-American vendors of books, jewelry and African art. After fellowship over lunch, attendees could choose from a series of workshops on topics ranging from church issues to business and health-care concerns.

Celesta Shropshire-Miller of the bicentennial committee said the information fair reaffirmed the church's commitment to counseling, something it had previously strayed away from.

To cap off the evening, conference attendees were treated to a bicentennial musical celebration and crusade. The musical program emphasized the sustaining role that 200 years of hymns and spirituals have played in the African-American struggle.

The Rev. Staccato Powell of the Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church of St. Louis, Mo., delivered the bicentennial message on the meaning of the freedom church, entitled "Now and Forever."

The A.M.E. Zion Church was founded in 1796 in New York City by James Varick, Abraham Thompson, William Miller and others. The church was an outgrowth of the Methodist Episcopal Church necessitated by discrimination and the denial of religious liberty in the larger church body. Dedicated to the liberation of the human spirit, the early society was known as the "Freedom Church" and attracted such notable members as Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth.

"This bicentennial is just an encapsulated view of what African Americans have brought to the spiritual arena, and a positive sign of what we can bring as we forge into the 21st century," Shropshire-Miller said.

Local Artist's CD Hits Shelves

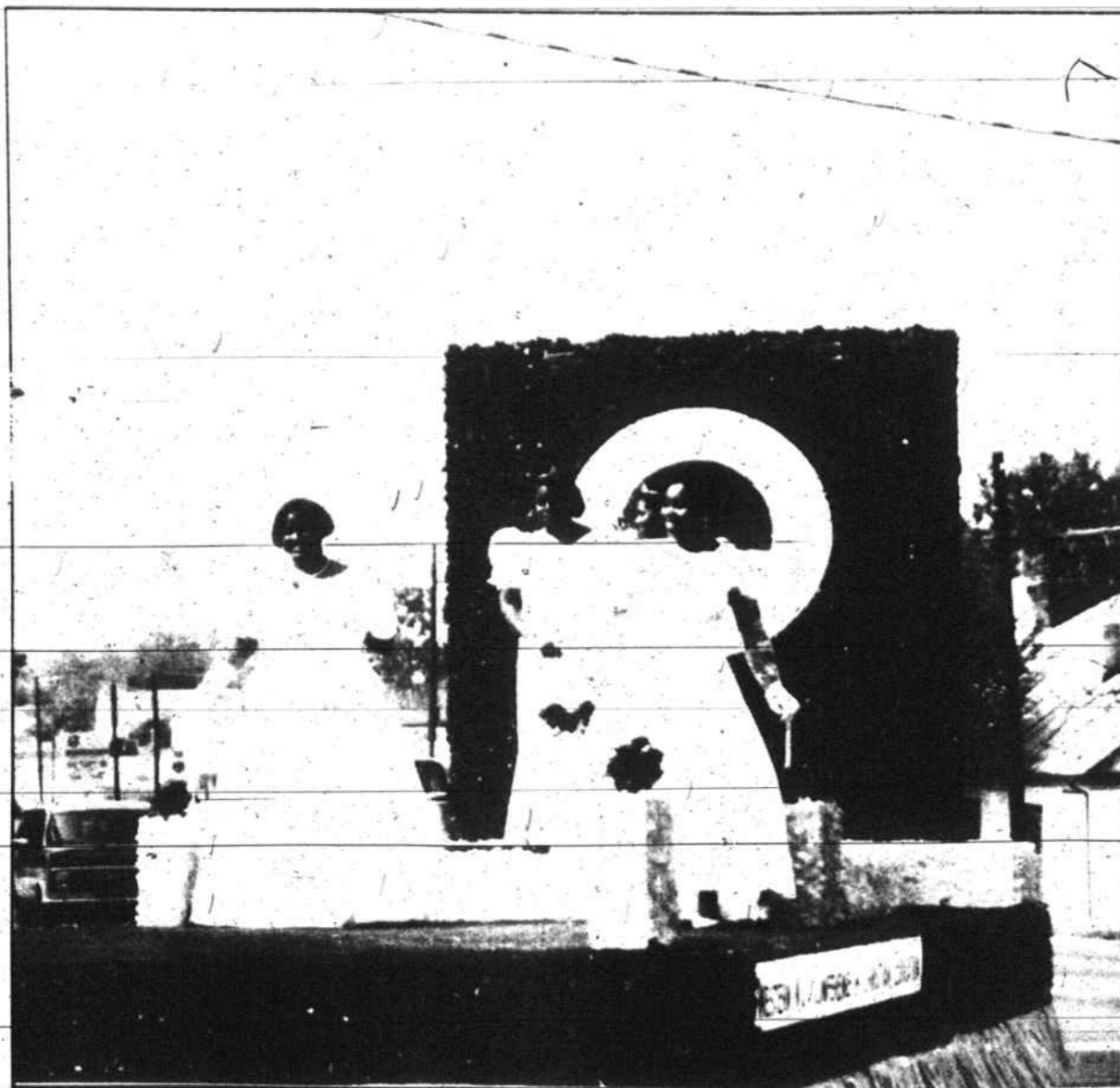
After a three-year tour with the World Famous Count Basie Orchestra, Winston-Salem native Chris Murrell will return home this month to find his own compact disc on record-store shelves.

Entitled "Reprise," the CD consists of jazz standards that pay tribute to some of the industry's legends.

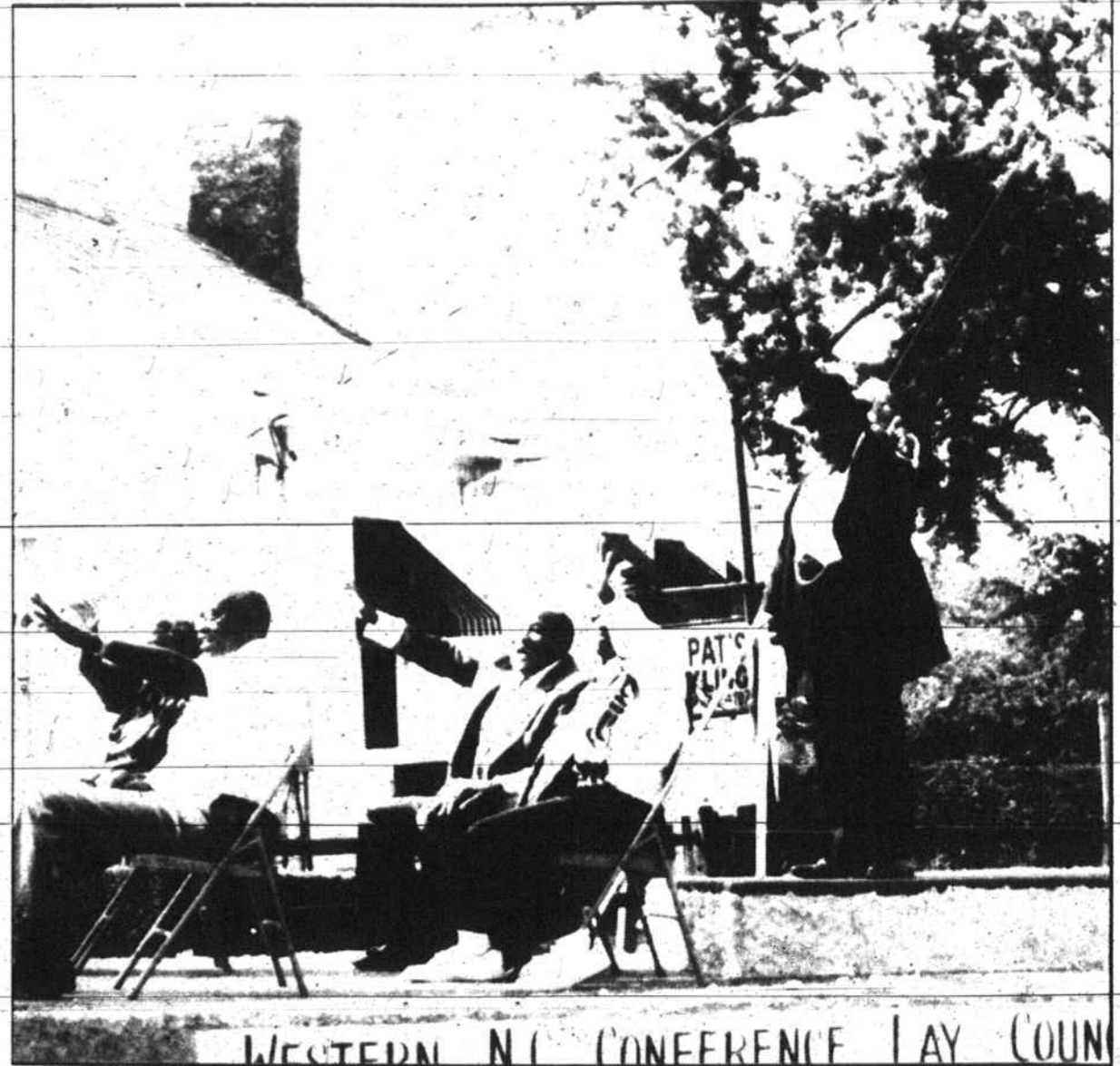
"I've chosen songs by great vocalists like Nat King Cole and (Frank) Sinatra," Murrell said. "Ideally, I'd like to be on my own, but now the Count Basie Band lets me travel around the world. Our next stop is Japan and we've been almost everywhere, so it lets my name be known worldwide," he said.

He also plans to release an original album next year with songs he has written in the tradition of Al Jarreau and Stevie Wonder.

"Reprise" is on sale at Now Hear This and CD Superstores in Winston-Salem.



The Western N C Conference of Christian Education float heads up M.L.K. Jr. Drive.



The Western NC Conference Lay Council waves to onlookers.

Get in on a super sale!

Sale prices effective Wednesday, June 15 through Saturday, June 18

10.88 Sale
CDs include Angela Winbush's "Angela Winbush", 12 Gauge's "12 Gauge" or two other titles. Babyface's "For The Cool In You", Sale 11.88
Titles also available on cassette.

11.88
Ladies' rayon rompers in cool and comfortable short-sleeved, tank or halter styles. Choose from a variety of colorful prints. Sizes S-M-L. Reg. 14.99

9.99
Men's athletics. White cross-trainers*; white walking shoes** or black court shoes***. All padded for comfort. Reg. 14.99 Ea. *Medium width **Wide width ***Medium or wide-width sizes

2/\$5 Sale
Agree® hair care products
Choose shampoo or conditioner in a variety of popular formulas for your hair type. 15 fl. oz.

2/\$1 Sale
Sweet Love Essence feminine products
6-fl.-oz. disposable douche in wild cherry, strawberry, passion fruit and peach formulas; alcohol-free.



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34.97 Sale
Remington Black Man's Shaver™
This handy electric shaver features an exclusive cutting system to handle tough curly hairs.
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29.97 Sale
Shakespeare big-water spinning combo
Designed for heavier spin fishing. Large-capacity reel with R/L retrieve front drag graphite spool.
700