

# Tri-City Relays track club warming up for 20th year

By SAM DAVIS  
THE CHRONICLE

After nearly 20 years of working with young athletes in the Triad Area, the Tri-City Relays are ready to take their program to the next level.

The organization recently unveiled its plans for an expanded program that will emphasize academic growth and a campaign against crime and drugs.

Some eight years ago the organization's leaders decided to add an academic segment to their program, called Academics and Athletics. Recently they infused another program, called "Tri-City Project Teach," a tutoring program to assist all students with academics - including homework and physical development. Now, they want to take it to the next level.

The program's current membership is 75. Since its first AAU Junior Olympics meet, the program has produced 36 All-Americans. Participants in the program have set 22 national records and participated in 13 different states

throughout the United States, as well as Canada, Bermuda, the Bahamas and Saudi Arabia.

Tri-City had 32 members to compete in the AAU national championships in Cleveland, Ohio, in August. The club captured 27 medals and Toi Pleasants set a national record in the 100-meter dash for 10-year-old girls.

In the spring of 1981 the vision and dreams of coaches Lemuel Johnson and Earnest "Jerry" Riley became a reality when they got together and formed a track club - the "Chev-Relays." The club consisted of one female and 10 male athletes.

The current organization evolved from that small beginning, with members later earning All-America status and college scholarships.

Coming out of the blocks quickly, the team successfully competed in AAU and TAC meets and built a reputation for producing top quality athletes and winning numerous awards.

In 1984 the program's membership had grown to 75 and its

Junior boys 13-14 advanced to international competition and won second place in a meet with only four athletes.

In the fall of 1985 the team changed its name to "Twin City Relays" in order to better reflect the community in which it was a part of. In that same year a tutorial program was started to assist all students with academics. SAT prep classes were added to assist college-bound students. The present name of that program is "Athletes and Academics." Sessions are held each Wednesday evening at the Brown and Douglas Recreation Center at 7 p.m.

The program is planning a great observance and celebration for the 2000 year. The entire community is invited to participate - including all present and past members and affiliates.

"We look forward to recruiting our largest lineup ever - including members and coaches," Johnson said. "We are also headed to Disney World for the nationals in 2000. Come one, come all. Let's have a ball!"



## THE CHRONICLE

The Choice for African American News and Information



617 North Liberty Street  
Winston-Salem, NC 27102  
Facsimile: (910) 723-9173

WINSTON SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY

### Maya Angelou Institute for the Improvement of Child and Family Education

LESSONS LEARNED: BREAKING THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE II Program 3

"Containing Crisis: Managing School and Community Emergencies"

3:30-5:30 PM, November 30, 1999

Dillard Auditorium-Anderson Center  
Winston-Salem State University

- Best practices in crisis management
- Assessment of facilities and resources
- Establishing effective media relations
- Community collaborations
- Victim services
- Managing confusion and risk after an emergency

TO REGISTER, CALL (336) 750-2696

The Maya Angelou Institute for the Improvement of Child and Family Education, the Winston-Salem Urban League, and the Winston Lake Family YMCA are co-sponsors of this live national videoconference.

For more information contact:

Frankie Denise Powell (750-2696), "D" Smith (725-5614), and Maurice Horsey (724-9205)

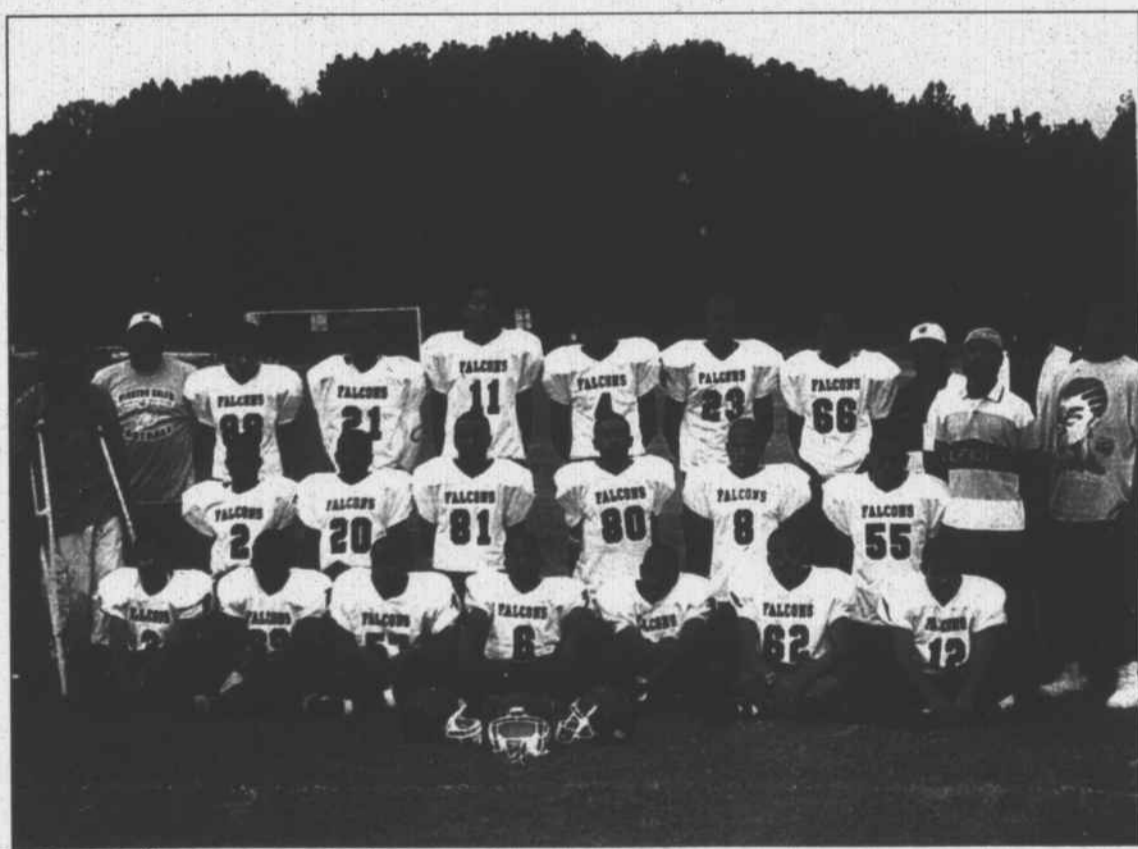
The 10th Anniversary  
National Black Theatre Festival Volunteer Reception  
Thursday, November 11, 7PM to 9PM  
Adams Mark Winston Plaza Hotel-West Tower (Garden Terrace)  
Volunteers, Sponsors & Contributors Only  
Call The Black Rep Office At 723-2266 By  
Monday, November 8th  
Black & Purple Attire Preferred



Larry Leon Hamlin & Leslie Uggams

In honor of the 1,200 volunteers of the 10th Anniversary National Black Theatre Festival, Producer & Artistic Director Larry Leon Hamlin and 1999 National Chairperson Leslie Uggams invite volunteers to attend this marvelous reception in your honor. The Adams Mark Hotel will provide food and refreshments. The deejay for the evening will be Arlie Gray. Outstanding volunteer will be recognized. Representatives of the Festival's sponsors & contributors will be in attendance including R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, the City of Winston-Salem, Wachovia Corporation, American Express, Bank of America, Forsyth County Tourism Development Authority, Sara Lee Corporation, Greater Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce, Inogen Corporation, OAC Technology Solutions, Seagrams, Time Warner Cable, US Airways, Novant/Partners Health Plan of North Carolina, Winston-Salem State University, Wake Forest University, N.C. School of the Arts, Forsyth County, Lowes Food, North Carolina Arts Council, Modern Chevrolet, The Chronicle, Winston-Salem Journal, WAAA Radio, Mechanic & Farmers Bank and many others.

NCBRC celebrating 20 years of professional Black Theatre is a funded member of the Arts Council of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County and receives funds from the North Carolina Arts Council & the NC Department of Cultural Resources.



Winston-Salem Falcons Sr. Midgets

## Falcons Sr. Midgets end season with 6-0 loss to Grayhounds

Special to THE CHRONICLE

The Tiny Falcons Senior Midgets fought valiantly, but couldn't produce enough offense to get past the Tiny Grayhounds in a playoff game last Tuesday night at the Grayhounds' field.

The Grayhounds broke a scoreless tie on a 40-yard touchdown run with 38 seconds remaining in the game and that was enough to boost them to a 6-0 win and give them a berth in last Saturday's championship game.

The Falcons, who captured the national championship as a Junior-Bantam program

during the 1998 season, finished the season with a 7-2 record. Coach Albert Wright said his team played hard, but came up short in its quest to advance to the regional playoffs.

"We just couldn't score," Wright said. "The Grayhounds scored on a missed tackle with 38 seconds left in the game, and it hurts to see your team break down with little time left in the game - especially after the defense played so well all day."

"Both teams gave it all they had," Wright said. "Someone had to lose. It hurt our kids and I have to apologize for the way our kids took the loss. But we had a good season and a lot of the kids are coming back."