



Drummers from the Otesha Creative Arts Ensemble lead the procession into the library.

Photo by Kevin Walker

Kwanzaa

from page C5

covered dish.)
Saturday - Dellabrook Presbyterian Church, 115 Dellabrook Road, 7 p.m.

blessedness.
Teaching the children the history and the culture is a key element in the celebration of Kwanzaa, meaning "the first fruits." Children are fruits of a family and of a community. Willard Tanner, director of education and training for the Urban League, assisted Smith in recognizing 20 community leaders who have taken a stand for children. Having completed 30 hours of training in the Rites of Passage program, sponsored by the Governor's Initiative Mentor program and Pepsi Cola of North Carolina, these leaders committed themselves to reaching back to bring other young people along the path toward success and maturity.

"Our children are in desperate need of our guidance," Smith said. "If our children are going astray, it is because we have not kept close watch. Promise yourself that come year 2000, you will help one child get where you are."

Tanner explained the symbols of Kwanzaa and told the history of this cultural holiday. Holding up the unity cup, Tanner allowed the audience to call out the names of the ancestors as he offered libations in their honor.

"We give thanks to God, the Creator, Allah. We give thanks to the elders, to the ancestors and to those who are here now," Tanner said. "We should live by the principles of the Nguzo Saba, not just for today, but throughout our lives. Tanner invited children from the audience to light a candle for each of the seven principles.

Tanner and staff members from the Urban League taught the audience a harvest song called "Odunde." Otesha had the audience moving to the rhythm of the drums. The males challenged the females in a dancing competition. The audience clapped in unison and encouraged the dancers to do their best.

Tanner and Smith paid homage to the corporate sponsors who have offered support for the Kwanzaa celebration this year. Everyone in the audience received a Kwanzaa pin from Dana Suggs' Kwanzaa Ornaments Co. Mechanics and Farmers Bank purchased these pins from her company. Other Kwanzaa sponsors in the audience were recognized: American Express, Pepsi Cola Co., Forsyth Seafood, Wachovia, B&D's, R. J. Reynolds, Winston-Salem Transit Authority and Simple Elegance.

More than 25 members of the local Muhammad's Mosque of the Nation of Islam were in attendance. Minister Mikal Muhammad and several members of his congregation came to the celebration for the first time.

"The seven principles are the building blocks for unity, starting here at home and reaching out to the diaspora. Umoja is an important night for the unity of all people. These are the principles that will bring about our independence. We can have freedom, justice and equality," Minister Muhammad said.

Kwanzaa continues through Jan. 1. Celebrations will be held at the following sites:

Tonight - Grace Presbyterian Church, 3901 Carver School Road, 7 p.m.

Friday - Mazie S. Woodruff Center, 4905 Lansing Drive, 6 p.m. (Participants are asked to bring a

Sigma Gamma Rho adopts children for Christmas

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. was founded at Butler University in 1922. The slogan for the sorority is "greater service, greater progress." In keeping with the slogan, Theta Mu Sigma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. continues to work throughout the community offering a helping hand to those who need love, care

and help.

Theta Mu Sigma began the holiday season by adopting a family for Thanksgiving and adopting two children for Christmas. The sorority also adopted Brookside nursing home for the Christmas holiday.

The sorority provided Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings for its Thanksgiving family. The two children adopted

for Christmas were given a party at Soror Lillian Conner's home, where they received gifts donated by the sorority and McDonalds. The children adopted for Christmas have been adopted by the sorority for the year as part of the Kid-Kare Program sponsored by Theta Mu Sigma.

On Dec. 23, Theta Mu Sigma serenaded the patients at Brookside Nursing Home with Christ-

mas carols. The sorority also lighted the Christmas tree at Brookside and donated fruit as part of the program held on Dec. 23. The patients joined in singing carols and seemed to enjoy the spirit of the holiday.

It is the goal of the sorority to share, care, show love and to help those in need in any way that can make a difference.

Elder gets nod from Who's Who

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Kenyon Elder of 1922 Pleasant Street, a senior at Parkland High School, was named to Who's Who Among American High School Students.



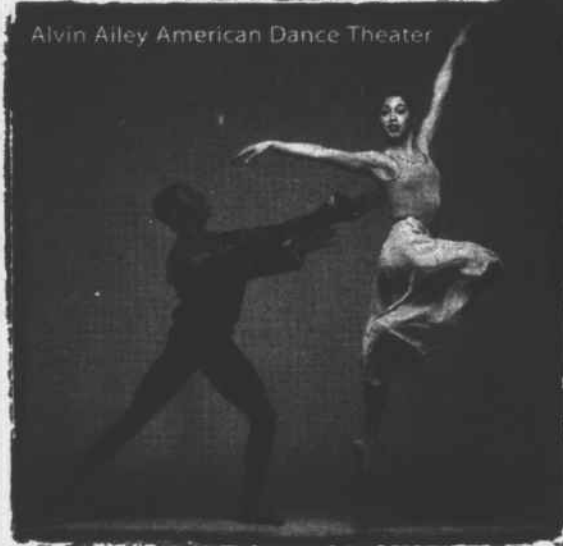
Kenyon

He is a member of the Math Club, Math Team, Pep Club, Quiz Bowl, Jazz Band, Marching Band, Orchestra and Pep Band. He plans to attend East Carolina University. He is the grandson of Sarah and John H. Elder.

Reid receives scholarship from NAUW



Wilhelmina B. Long, president of the Winston-Salem Branch of National Association of University Women Inc., recently presented a \$500 check to Johnetta S. Reid, the winner of their annual scholarship program. Reid attends Winston-Salem State University in the School of Nursing. She is the daughter of Mrs. Anna Reid of the city. Doris S. Herrell is chairman of the scholarship committee. The purpose of the association is to promote and conduct educational activities designed to provide community outreach services at every level of development.



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