



JV teams shine at Lash Tourney

-See Page B8



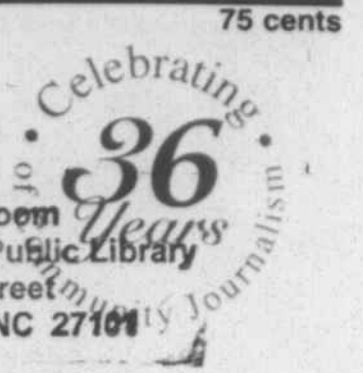
Holiday event draws crowd

-See Page B1



Van Jones to speak at Triad college

North Carolina Room
Forsyth County Public Library
660 West Fifth Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101



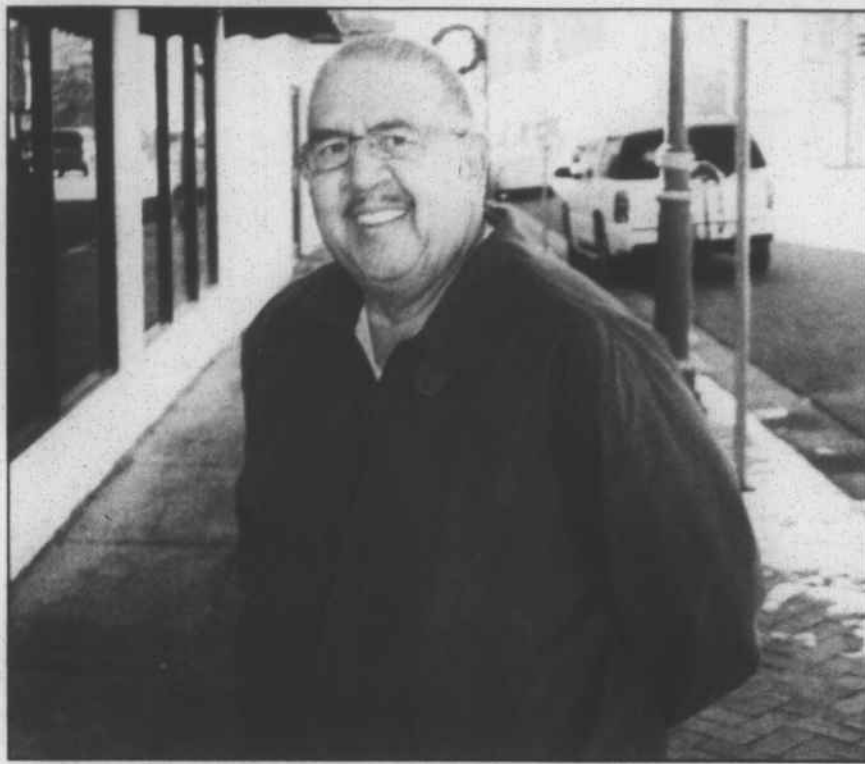
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WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, December 30, 2010



Beaufort Bailey is not ruling out another run for public office.

Bowing Out Gracefully

No longer a commissioner, Bailey still plans to serve

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

He is just Beaufort Bailey these days. The title County Commissioner that used to precede his name no longer applies.

In May, Bailey lost the closest primary race in Forsyth County to fellow Democrat Everette Witherspoon by only 95 votes. The loss brought his eight-year run as a member of the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners to an end.

With no challenger in the General Election, Witherspoon was assured one of the two seats in District A and was sworn in on Dec. 6. Bailey said he's called Witherspoon to offer him his support and advice if he needs it.

"I just want Everette to be successful," said Bailey. "He's a bright young man. I think he can be (successful) if he plays his cards right."

In retrospect, Bailey said he should have "beat the bushes more" instead of assuming that name recognition would garner him a win. It wasn't the first time that Bailey had lost an election.



Plyler

He had been a seventh-grade teacher for 11 years and was working at Winston-Salem State University as an educational media specialist when he ran for School Board in 1972. He said he ran at the suggestion of Wayne Corpening, a former Wachovia Bank executive who would later become mayor. Corpening thought the school board needed a black voice.

Bailey failed to win a seat on the School Board on his first try, but two years later, he became the first African-American School Board candidate to win a countywide election. He lost the seat in 1978, but was reelected to the board in 1982 and

See Bailey on A3

Winter weather doesn't stop birthday party for 100-year-old

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Friends and loved ones of Elizabeth "Bitty" Parks Caesar gathered at University Place Apartments on Sunday, to celebrate Caesar's century of living.

Caesar, who was born on Christmas Eve, 1910, was showered with gifts and well wishes from the dozens who attended the party, despite the snowy weather, on Dec. 26.

"They just brought me so much stuff, look like I couldn't do nothing but cry," Caesar said of the gathering, which was organized by her only child, Samuel Howard. "It was great. It was nice."



Elizabeth "Bitty" Caesar turned 100-years-old on Dec. 24.

It was a joyous occasion for Caesar, a former R.J. Reynolds employee whose father helped to build the historic Nissen building downtown. The centenarian takes pleasure in the little things in life, but says she isn't much for idle time, she's squeezed everything she could out of her 100 years of living.

Caesar is an active member of several ministries at Kimberly Park Holiness Church, where she has been a member since she was a child, and sings on the church's Senior Choir. She says she doesn't miss a Sunday, unless she's accompanying Howard to a service at his church, Grace Presbyterian.

She drove until the age of 98, and still cooks dinner in her kitchen every night. She walks without the aid of a cane or walker, and is well known for her baking prowess, especially when it comes to the cakes she often bakes just for fun.

"Sometimes people call me on the phone and say, 'Bitty, you got any cake in your freezer?' I say, 'Yes, come and get it,'" she related. "I used to sell them, but now I just give them away."

Caesar is also active in the N.C. Order of the Eastern Star civic group - where she has been a member for 55 years - a local Mahalia Jackson fan club and the Hanes Hosiery

See Caesar on A9

SEASON OF GIVING



Stuart Epperson Jr., president of The Light radio station, stops in to visit with "Santa" last week, during the station's annual toy giveaway. Longtime DeeJay Anita "Boss Lady" Dean (left) spearheaded the project. Read more about the event on page A2.

Abbreviated Kwanzaa celebration starts

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

After losing two days of the celebration to winter weather conditions, the city-wide Kwanzaa celebration officially began Tuesday evening with a program observing "ujima," or collective works and responsibility.

"The meaning of ujima is to build and maintain our communities, to make our brothers and sisters' problems our problems and to work collectively to solve them," UNC-Chapel Hill student Melvin Aikens Jr. told the dozens present at the celebration as he lit the candle for the third day of Kwanzaa, observed Dec. 26-Jan. 1.

The event, which was slated to be held in the historic St. Philips African American Complex, was moved to the Old Salem



Melvin Aikens talks about the meaning of ujima.

Visitor's Center to provide easier access for participants, who braved the still-icy conditions to attend.

Because Monday's celebration was cancelled, The

Healing Force's Gail Anderson honored the Rev. Dr. Francis Mann Jr. Tuesday for upholding the Dec. 27 principle of kujichagulia, meaning self deter-

mination.

Mann, a city native, was lauded for his commitment to area youth.

"Dr. Mann has done extensive work, especially when it comes to working with children who have special needs," Anderson said. "...these children are so blessed to have him looking out for them because he goes the extra mile. I've seen him do it."

Maurice Pitts-Johnson of the Friends of the Happy Hill Cemetery was honored for ujima. For over a year, Pitts-Johnson has led the charge to clean up an unattended cemetery in Happy Hill, the city's oldest African American neighborhood. In accepting the plaque, Pitts-Johnson urged others to support the group's work.

"We hope to see many of you join the effort," said

See Kwanzaa on A9

DON'T PASS THE BUCK

BUY LOCAL



WS CHAMBER

