

Annual Big 4 events a hit with alumni

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The 2011 Big 4 High School Celebration, sponsored by the Anderson Alumni Association, came to a close Saturday night at the Benton Convention Center with a Reunion Show and Dance featuring the Dazz Band.

Alumni of Anderson, Atkins, Carver and Paisley high schools and their families and friends greeted one another warmly and shared fond memories of Forsyth County's Big 4 historically black high schools.

The celebration began with a spirit-filled worship service at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, where the Big 4 Choir and Emmanuel Liturgical Dancers performed. Rev. James Lewis, a graduate of Anderson High School, preached. Galilee Pastor Nathan Scovens welcomed attendees. Anderson Alumni Association President Theodis Foster also spoke. The Worship Service was chaired by Quilla Smith.

The celebration continued with a Teachers' Appreciation Luncheon on Friday at the Anderson Center, formerly Anderson High School. Rudolph V. Boone Sr. who taught at both Carver and Anderson, conducted a memorial tribute to deceased teachers. A musical tribute was performed by James Funches, a former Anderson student and teacher.

Gifts were presented to the 45 Big 4 teachers who attended the luncheon. The teachers heard about the impact they had on their student's lives. Eric Martin, president of the Paisley Alumni Association, thanked the teachers and commended them for their dedication and commitment. Atkins Alumni



Former Anderson High School Teacher Flonnie Anderson (second from left) is greeted by Anderson Alumni Association members (from left) Betty Terry, Patricia (Ollie) Sadler, Shirley Fennell, Brenda McCall and Linda Rogers at the Big 4 Reunion Show and Dance.



Anderson alumni Jerry Hanes, William Finney and Ralph Funches won the Big 4 Basketball Shoot-Out.

Association President George Johnson Jr. reflected on his experience at Atkins and the way teachers nurtured and encouraged students to excel. Malishai Woodbury, president of the Carver Alumni Association, also had praise for the educators.

Arthur Childs, a graduate of Anderson High

School, made a moving tribute to his former teachers at Anderson. He told how the teachers and principals are responsible for his success. He made special mention of former Principal A. B. Reynolds, Coach Virgil Simpson and Flonnie Anderson, an English teacher who practiced no-nonsense discipline while

showing great compassion. Jimmie Sudler, a retired Carver teacher, gave thanks on behalf of the teachers.

Family Fun Game Night at the Gateway YWCA was held on Friday night. The winner of the "Big 4 Got Talent" was Paris Johnson, a 16-year-old student of Mt. Tabor High School who sang a gospel song. She was presented with a cash prize by Patricia Sadler, event chairperson.

Anderson, Atkins, Paisley and Carver Alumni squared off in a free throw shoot-out competition. William Finney, Ralph Funches and Jerry Hanes led the Anderson squad to victory. The team walked away with the title of "Big 4 Alumni Shoot-Out Champions."

At the end of the celebrations, alumni bid goodbye and expressed their anticipation for next year's 18th annual event, which will be sponsored by the Atkins High School Alumni Association.



Bow-Tie Boyz (n Girlz) members present a check to Ben Piggott.

Club raises money for toy exchange

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The Bow-Tie Boyz (n Girlz) Auto Club hosted its Second Annual Charity Bowling Event at Northside Bowling Lanes on Oct. 15.

The more than \$200 that the event raised will be used to buy toys for the upcoming Peace Toys for War Toys Exchange program. The popular Christmas program invites local kids to turn in violent toys like plastic guns and fake swords and exchange them for nonviolent toys.

Ben Piggott founded the program after his brother was violently killed. The

program is one of many sponsored by the Bow-Tie Boyz (n Girlz) throughout the year. The group is made up of local car enthusiasts.

The bowling fundraiser featured teams comprised of four bowlers. More than 490 bowlers of all ages took part. This year's winning team - The H2o Ladies - had a total score of 2,180 points. Each bowler who participated was given a ticket for an opportunity to win various door prizes throughout this event.

The Bow-Tie Boyz (n Girlz) Auto Club is grateful to its many sponsors, donors and participants.



The winning H2o Ladies team.

Submitted Photos

Don't Miss the Action!

Winston-Salem State Rams
Shaw Bears

1000 HORN\$ Appreciation Game

Rams Senior Day

Saturday, October 29th • Bowman-Gray Stadium • 1:30 p.m.

For More Information, Contact the WSSU Ticket Office at (336) 750-3220