

Allen Family holds weekend reunion

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The descendants of the late Mack Allen and Mary Hunter Allen Wilson enjoyed a two-day reunion over the weekend. The last Allen family reunion was held more than 35 years ago.

At the urging of Mary Allen Wilson, the 94-year-old family matriarch, a family tree is being constructed. There were many family members living in the same city who did not know one another; hence, the idea for a union and reunion. Planning began in 2012 at the urging of Olivia Allen. Committee members Phyllis Allen, Debra Allen Pankey, Latoya Allen and Maria Davis-Hill worked to make it happen. Family members from Alabama, Georgia, Michigan and North Carolina descended on Winston-Salem for the gathering.

Facing the unpleasant news of power outages at Walnut Hall at Tanglewood Park, the family sought ways to cope with the situation. Through prayer and the hard work of power crews, electricity was restored and the reunion took off. Latoya Allen, Lionel Allen



The family poses outside of Mount Sinai Full Gospel Deliverance Center.



Mary Allen Wilson

and Beverly Ingram were the lunch and dinner chefs. The group enjoyed a scavenger hunt to learn interesting facts about family members. Prizes were awarded to those with the most correct answers.

The family also enjoyed basketball, badminton and pedal boating. The four living children of Mack and Mary were present: Albert, Barbara, Miller (Alice) and Sarah

(Julius-deceased). Five generations were represented, ranging from age two-months-old to 75.

Father's Day Weekend made the event extra special for Albert and his daughter Beverly, who had not seen her father since she was 12-years-old. Albert is the caregiver for his mother, Mary Allen Wilson, who was not able to travel to the reunion.

On Sunday, the family enjoyed a spirited service at Mount Sinai Full Gospel Deliverance Center. The message, "Men Who Make a Difference," was delivered by Rev. Yvonne H. Hines. The family had dinner in the fellowship hall. Chante Taylor and Phebe Pankey designed the reunion t-shirt. Plans are being formulated for the next reunion in Michigan.

Peppers

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poverty, abuse and illness? In the new world order, long life becomes the norm. Infant mortality will cease to exist. Human transition (death) will come after at least 100 years of age. No longer will humanity have to worry about their

possessions. Houses and fruitful vineyards (symbols of peace and prosperity) will not be in jeopardy of theft or conquest. All children will live up to their God-given potential. When the remnant calls, He will answer quickly. Not only will human relationships change, the animal kingdom will be different

also. The predator and the prey will peacefully coexist and the serpent will be harmless!

Application: History has recorded many instances where people return from various situations anticipating a better day. Captives/hostages, soldiers (the victors and the defeated), survivors

of cancer, catastrophes and abuse come to new beginnings with hope. Life may or may not deliver this now. Believers can be assured of that new day because God said that a new order is coming!

As His children/remnant, we can look beyond the current to see the brighter day. If we could

stop and evaluate the changes in life that we've seen; who would have had this in mind? We have to be in awe of God's acts! We've come a long way, but He is not through yet. Yes, we have a lot of reasons to rejoice, both personally and collectively.

The Suffering Servant will come again to estab-

lish new heavens and a new earth. That new world order turns the old one upside down. Can we worship Him right now for what will happen in the future? He is the awesome God! Worship Him today in spirit and in truth, for we are the recipients of His great love and power. Amen! Amen!

Clinic

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up a little bit and actually get you ladies involved, so what we're going to do is take you through what our kids go through on a daily basis," Assistant Coach Daren Hart told the women at the outset of the program. "Keep in mind that our players do all the stuff that you're going to do, but with about eight to 10 pounds (of equipment) on them."

Though challenging, McCaskill, a social worker, described the clinic as "fun, fun and more fun."

McCaskill's former classmate, Mae Godette, an avid Rams football fan, also gave the clinic a thumbs-up.

"It's exciting - energizing," commented Godette, whose former husband once coached WSSU football. "It's fun too."

Former players Brian Mitchell and Keith Ferguson lent their support to the clinic, suiting up in Rams jerseys and demonstrating the drills for the ladies. The experience brought back not-so-long ago memories for Mitchell, a strong safety who graduated in May.

"It's just like day one," the 24 year-old said with a grin. "It's like no time has passed."

Ferguson, a career facilitator for Piedmont Triad Regional Council and a 2012 WSSU alumnus, said he was pleasantly surprised by the energy and enthusiasm he witnessed on the field.

"I love the overall atmosphere here," declared the former defensive back. "The



Coach Connell Maynor shows the women how the players get hyped for a game.

ladies came out super excited and ready to tackle the obstacles, and I'm just really eager to teach them the game so they can pass it along."

After 17 years of marriage, Coach Maynor's wife Meryl Maynor is already well versed in the basics of the game, but she said participating in the clinic was still a learning experience for her.

"This is fun - I'm enjoying getting to see what the football players go through," remarked

Maynor, an alumna of rival North Carolina Central University. "I'm getting a greater appreciation for what they do."

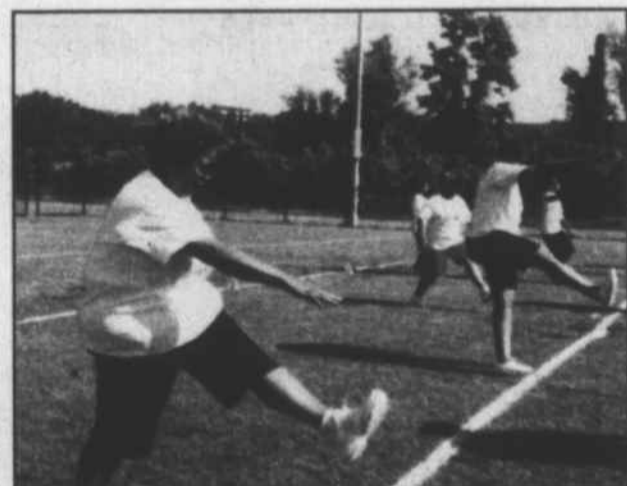
WSSU employee and alumna Darice Wooten recruited a group of friends to join her at the clinic Saturday.

"My friends are trying to get back into exercising and working out, so I thought this would be a fun opportunity for them to actually get out and have fun, but also learn a little bit about football," explained Wooten, a

teacher recruiter for the School of Education. "To actually get in the shoes of the athletes here at the university, it makes you more engaged for the football season."



Meryl Maynor (front) and Morgan Washington take part in a drill exercise.



Aimee McCaskill and others try their hands a flexibility drill.



Assistant Coach Daren Hart preps the ladies.

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