



Photos by Todd Luck

Cheryl Valenzuela and Alex Capps compete in Bocci.

**Grand**  
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instead of individuals. Overhanging clouds and a field slightly damp from the previous night's rainfall didn't deter the competitors.

Dozens of volunteers, including Winston-Salem State University students and Senior Games athletes, kept score and helped those who needed assistance traversing the uneven trail between competition areas.

John and Cheryl Valenzuela paired up with their grandchildren, Ian and Alex Capps, respectively. John is a Senior Games participant and came out to the inaugural Grand Games last year. He said he enjoyed the family time that this year's event facilitated.

"It's been good bonding with them," he said of his grandchildren.

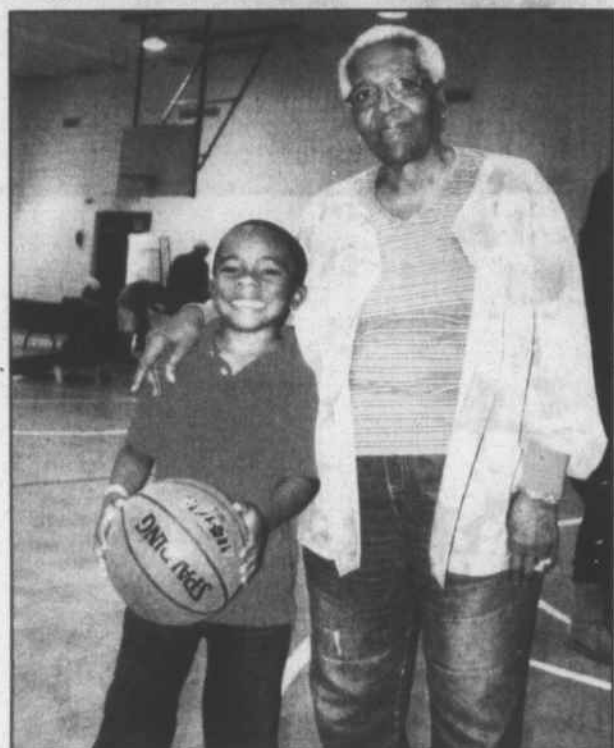
Betty McDowell, 81, played with her grandson, Solomon Brown, 6. Though she gave the games her best, she said the real joy was watching her grandchild, who leaped into the air to score several baskets.

"You watch basketball on TV, it's easy, but doing it yourself, it's a little more complicated," she said.

Marcella Brown and her six year-old daughter, Noelle, came to cheer on their friend, Elizabeth Kimberly, who paired up with Brown's other daughter, nine-year-old Danielle. Noelle, who even brought little pom-poms to inspire her sister and Kimberly, ended up pairing up with her mom to compete.

"I think it's good for grandparents and young ones to participate and work together, and for them to try something different and new," Brown said.

Kimberly, who keeps herself in shape with 5k and 10k runs, said the events in the competition were either new to her or ones she hasn't played in



Betty McDowell with her grandson, Solomon Brown.



Marcella Brown and Elizabeth Kimberly with Danielle and Noelle Brown.

decades; she found them challenging and fun.

"I haven't thrown a football in probably 15 or 20 years," she said with a laugh.

The Grand Games first place ribbon went to Leon Haynes and his grandson, Daniel Duval. Second place went to Senior Games

Veteran Bill Gramley and Hayne's other grandson, Levi Haynes. Third place went to Bill Long and his grandson, Logan Pressley.

During the events, participants also got points for visiting organizations that had information tables set up at the event. They included Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center's Safe Kids Northwest Piedmont, which promotes childhood safety; Forsyth County's Be Healthy School Kids and Western & Southern Life (Insurance).

Fall Senior Games will be held Oct. 20-24. To register or to participate, contact Vestal at 336-727-2325 or [chuckv@cityofws.org](mailto:chuckv@cityofws.org) by tomorrow (Friday, Oct. 17).



Vestal

**Plan**

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\$30 million.

Mattie Young is known as "The Mayor" of Cleveland Avenue Homes, where she has lived since 1972. She said she is onboard with any plan that includes opportunities for economic advancement for public housing residents.

"If it is going to bring in jobs, I think it is a pretty good idea," she said. "The people who live in the area and the city need the jobs."

Young, who is also president of the neighborhood association, hopes the plan also addresses ways to rid the area of crime.

"The neighborhood is infested with drugs. There are people selling drugs all the time, and I think this will help weed out the drug situation," she said. "That's my biggest problem now. These people come over here - they don't live here - to sell their drugs."

The Housing Authority has paid almost \$250,000 to a Washington, D.C.-based



HAW'S Photo

Mattie Young at the recent community celebration.

architectural firm to create a plan for the neighborhoods that includes mixed-income, mixed-use housing that it hopes will attract retailers to service the community.

"We want to set up an environment that will stimulate and promote employment, business opportunities, improve

health systems, availability and accessibility to transportation and reconnect that particular neighborhood back into the city grid," said Woods, who said implementation of the plan will start in 16 months. "It is a big vision that the local community is working with us on to crystalize."

# Local SAT scores below state, national average

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The average SAT score for seniors in math and critical reading in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools was 996 last year.

Seniors scored an average of 493 in critical reading and 503 in math in 2014. The critical reading score decreased two points from 495 in 2013, and the math score decreased two points from 505 in 2013.

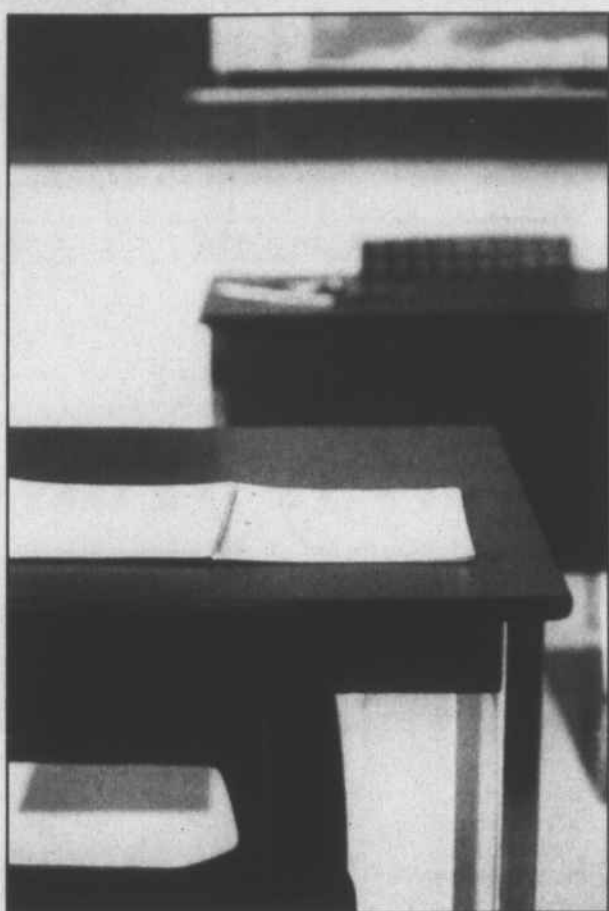
The state average was 499 in critical reading and 507 in math, for a combined score of 1,006. The state score increased from 1,001 in 2013, when seniors scored an average of 495 in critical reading and 506 in math.

The national average was 497 in critical reading and 513 in math, for a combined score of 1,010. The combined national score stayed the same from 2013 to 2014.

According to figures released last week, Atkins High School students scored an average of 890 on math and reading; Carver High students scored an average of 800; the average at Parkland was 910; the Winston-Salem Prep Academy average score was 786.

Seniors in Forsyth County also scored an average of 471 in writing, making the combined score for all three sections 1,467. The national average in writing was 487, for a total of 1,497, and the state average was 477, for a total of 1,483.

"The College Board cautions against using SAT scores as a way to judge school districts' performance,"



Superintendent Beverly Emory said. "High scores are important to individual students as they apply to colleges, however, so we want to see our long-term trend increase."

In Forsyth County, 58.5 percent of seniors took the SAT, a decrease from 56 percent the previous year. About 64 per-

cent of seniors in North Carolina and 52 percent of seniors nationally took the test.

WS/FCS students who said they were in the top 10 percent of their class performed better than their peers across the state. They scored an average of 587 in critical reading, 597 in math and 567 in writing.

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