

# W-S Prep continues to roll through state playoffs

BY TEVIN STINSON  
THE CHRONICLE

The Phoenix of Winston-Salem Preparatory Academy are rolling through the state playoffs.

On Tuesday, Feb. 27 in the quarterfinals match-up against the North Stanly Comets, the Phoenix pushed their winning streak to 22, earning the 78-67 victory. Although the Comets threatened throughout the contest, the Phoenix led the entire game.

The Phoenix will take on defending 1A State Champion Lincoln Charter on Saturday, March 3, for a chance to play for the 2018 NCHSAA 1A Championship. Last year Lincoln Charter defeated

WSPA 75-65 in the third round of the playoffs.

Head coach Andre Gould seemed to have the team rolling on all cylinders following their first round bye, routing the Granite Bears 95-68 to kick off their 2018 playoff run on Thursday, Feb. 22.

Heading into the match-up the Phoenix was arguable the hottest team in the state, riding a 19-game win streak, including a recent win over Mount Airy in the Northwest 1A Conference Championship on Feb. 16. The Granite Bears earned a fourth meeting with WSPA by defeating Bishop McGuinness 54-51 in the first round.

The two teams also met twice during regular season conference play.

Gould said coming into the fourth match-up with the Granite Bears he told his players to have a win or go home attitude and that's exactly how the team played. From the tip until the final buzzer WSPA played with energy on both sides of the ball the Mount Airy just couldn't match.

"You shouldn't have to motivate at this point in the season," Gould said when discussing his team's effort. "...You either win or you go home. We had to come out and play."

Junior guard Chaz Gwyn got the offense going for WSPA when he knocked down two quick three-pointers to open a 6-0 lead. Behind some sharp shooting from senior Caleb Arrington, and hustle plays from junior Donovan

Green, the Granite Bears were able to fight back to end the quarter but never managed to take the lead.

Daivien Williamson, Zack Austin, Corey Rutherford, and Justice Goodloe had stellar showings for the Phoenix as well. Along with advancing in the playoffs, and pushing their current streak to 20, the win also marked a milestone for Coach Gould as well.

The win marked his 301st as the head coach at WSPA.

Gould took the reins of the boy's basketball program at WSPA when the school first opened in 2006, and has built a dynasty. Since the 2006 season, WSPA has appeared in six state championships and brought the

title back four times, including back-to-back wins in 2013 and 2014.

After the game Gould thanked everyone who ever gave him an opportunity to and hundreds of players he has coached and mentored over the years. He said, "I'm proud that they gave me an opportunity and saw something in me and gave me a chance to prove them right."

Before becoming the head coach at WSPA, Gould served as an assistant at Reynolds High School where he learned the game from coaches like John Allen, Howard West, and others.

"I always had confidence in myself but just the fact that they had enough confidence in me to give

me a chance really means a lot," Gould continued. "And I couldn't have done it without the players. I'm proud of all of them whether they played basketball or not. I'm proud of my assistant coaches I'm proud of everybody that help make this possible."

The Phoenix didn't have long to bask in the glory of their 20 game win streak. WSPA was back in action on Saturday, Feb. 24 when they took on another conference foe, South Stokes.

In that match-up the Phoenix defeated the Suaras 71-60, WSPA's third win over South Stokes this season.

## Community Calendar

### Today, March 1-11 - Performance

The N.C. Black Repertory Company will present "Topdog/Underdog" on March 1-11. Topdog/Underdog is a dark comedy revolving around two African-American brothers: Lincoln and Booth. The event will be held at the Mountcastle Forum-Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts, 209 Spruce St. N. Tickets are \$25/adults and \$21/seniors and students. Visit [www.ncblackrep.org](http://www.ncblackrep.org) for more information and tickets. Performance dates and times are:

Thursday, March 1, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, March 2, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, March 3, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, March 4, 3 p.m.; Thursday, March 8, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, March 9, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, March 10, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, March 11, 3 p.m.

### Today, March 1-23 - Cereal Drive

In recognition of National Nutrition Month, Crisis Control Ministry will hold its 18th annual "Wee Care! Cereal Drive" from March 1-23. For more information on Wee Care! or to become a participating collection location, contact Tricia Murphy at Crisis Control at (336) 724-7875, ext. 1040.

### Today, March 1-May 31 - Writer's Competition

Winston-Salem Writers will be accepting entries for the 2018 Flying South competition from March 1-May 31. There will be \$2,000 in prizes awarded. Best in category winners will be published in Flying South magazine and will receive \$500 each. The Winston-Salem Writers President's Favorite will also receive \$500. Entry fee is \$15 (\$10 for members of Winston-Salem Writers). For details on submitting entries, go to [www.wswriters.org](http://www.wswriters.org) and click on the contests tab. Entries will be accepted after March 1 through submittable.com.

### Today, March 1 - Ringing the Alarm Bell

Join the Voting Rights Coalition as we discuss ways to build our power and fight back against attacks on our democracy. The meeting will be on today, Thursday, March 1 at 6 p.m. at Goler Memorial Church, 620 N. Patterson Ave.

### Today, March 1 - Application Deadline

The Ms. Wheelchair North Carolina Pageant, which is a disability advocacy and activism program that seeks to honor women who utilizes wheelchairs for their mobility for their accomplishments and achievements, since the onset of their disability. The next pageant will be in Asheville at the Hilton

Hotel in Biltmore Park on Saturday March 17. Contestants must be at least 21 years of age, be a resident of North Carolina for at least 6 months prior to the pageant date, and 100 percent wheelchair mobile for their community travels. (Meaning if you can walk a little bit within the home that's OK but you have to be dependent on the chair 100 percent when out and about.) The deadline for all applications is March 1. For more details, please send email to [brandee.ponder@mswheelchairc.org](mailto:brandee.ponder@mswheelchairc.org).

### Today, March 1 - Art Exhibit

Delta Arts Center, 2611 New Walkertown Road, Winston-Salem, is holding an opening reception for its exhibition of local artists 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 1. Ron Rogers, who draws political cartoons for The Chronicle, will be a featured artist. It is free and open to the public. The exhibition starts March 1 and ends June 30. For more information, go to <http://deltaartscenter.org/>

### Now-Mar. 2 - Sawtooth display

In celebration of our new woodcarving studio, Sawtooth is proud to present (Hew) to Form. On display from Jan. 16 through March 2, this collaborative show details the many art forms and expressions of woodcarving. An opening reception will be held on Feb. 2 from 5-7 p.m. Free and open to the public. Sawtooth is located upstairs in the Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts at 251 N. Spruce St. in downtown, Winston-Salem. For more information visit [sawtooth.org](http://sawtooth.org) or call (336) 723-7395.

### Now - March 24 - Light installation

The Arts Council of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County in partnership with the North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center and Clean Air Carolina will sponsor a multi-story public art light installation in downtown Winston-Salem beginning Thursday, Feb. 22 and ending March 24. The display is free and open to the public. Best viewing is the corner of West Fourth Street and Spruce Street any evening from Feb. 22 - March 24 beginning at dusk.

### Now-Mar. 30 - Basketball Camp Scholarships

EnergyUnited is giving two students an opportunity to hit the hardwood alongside their favorite college basketball athletes and coaches this summer, thanks to Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships. Applications are being accepted through March 30 and can be found online at [www.energyunited.com/sports-camp](http://www.energyunited.com/sports-camp). Eligible students who are

interested in the scholarship can contact Donnie Shoaf, Communications Specialist at (704) 924-2139 or [donnie.shoaf@energyunited.com](mailto:donnie.shoaf@energyunited.com).

### Now-April 19 - Volunteers Needed

A call for volunteers for the 20th annual RiverRun International Film Festival. Volunteer registration is now open for our 20th Festival, April 19-29! Contact Jarie McKim at [Jarie@riverrunfilm.com](mailto:Jarie@riverrunfilm.com) or follow the link to register: <http://riverrunfilm.com/volunteer/>.

### Now-May 11 - Parent Academy

Carver High School in partnership with Forsyth Technical Community College will offer Parent Academy and Community Institute classes. The classes will be held every Tuesday and Wednesday from 5:45-8:45 p.m. until May 11. Free child care will be provided. For more info, please call (336) 727-2987 ext. 33048.

### Now - Cultural Arts directory

Triad Cultural Arts, Inc. is compiling an online Triad Cultural Arts Directory. We would like to promote regional artistic organizations and independent artists, using our website and Coming Eventz e-newsletter. Post your event in our community news section of the Coming Eblast for free. To have a graphic/flier posted there is a fee.

For more information, visit [www.triadculture.org](http://www.triadculture.org) or email [info@triadculture.org](mailto:info@triadculture.org)

### March 2 - Black History finale

Black Americans Demonstrating Unity, Salem College's Black student union will have a Black History Finale Show on March 2 at 7 p.m. at Salem College's Hanes Auditorium.

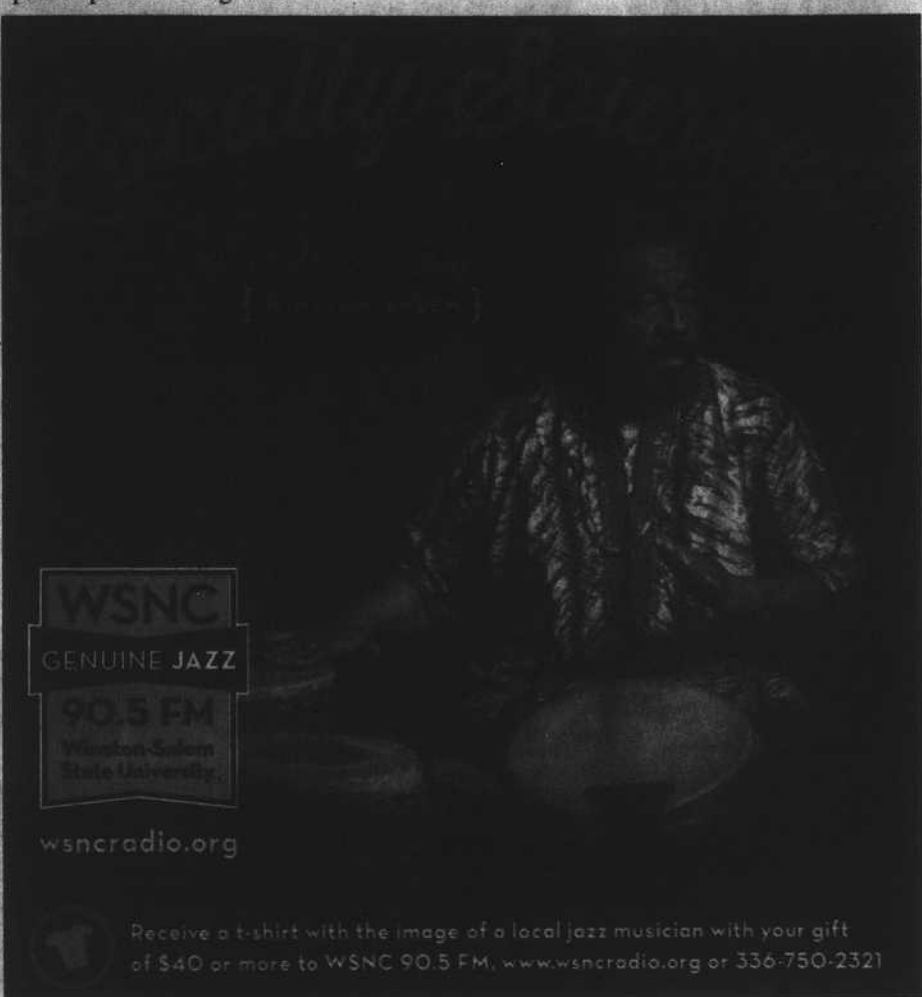
### March 2 - Film Screening

The International Civil Rights Center & Museum will have a film viewing of "Scandalize My Name: Stories from the Blacklist" on March 2 as part of its First Friday series. First Friday begins at 6:00 p.m., free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be available after the program, in the front lobby. Building will close at 8 p.m.

### March 2 - Gala

Eastern Music Festival will host its 3rd Annual Spring Scholarship Gala, The Magic of the Music on March 2, 2018. This social and musical evening will help to raise scholarship funds for young artists to study at EMF and will honor Joseph M. Bryan, Jr. for his years of continued

See Com. Cal. on B6



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