

MLK parade brings out the best of Rowan County's citizens

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during the parade that seemed to captivate those in attendance.

"First, I passed out small packages of M&M candy to the

crowd," he said, "then we executed a prepared call-and-response chant for eleven notable figures in black history whose names have an 'M' in them.

"So, as we performed, I would blow a whistle and call, 'Let freedom ring,' and they would respond, 'Martin Luther King.' Or, I would say, 'By any means for progress' and they

would respond, 'Brother Malcolm X,' and so on."

In addition to the performance of his drill team, Banks said the parade had an

increasing significance for him.

"It was an honor to lead the parade that featured the band director (H. Wade Johnson of Livingstone College) who

taught me all that I know. It gave me a chance to show him how all the hard work paid off in my life, and how I have a chance to give to others. The whole affair was tremendous."

Deficit hinders East Spencer

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funds.

The state of North Carolina warned East Spencer last year to stop depending on Powell Bill funds to help with expenditures in the general fund.

Because those funds are only supposed to be used for construction and street mainte-

nance, there is belief that there has been an improper use of funds.

Teague said that the audit showed revenues from the general funds of \$800,000 and expenses of \$898,000 for the past fiscal year.

"That's a significant amount of money," he said, "for a town of East Spencer's size."

Teague claims that the rea-

son for the overruns were the general government, transportation, and debt service budget items.

"That's a pretty significant statement to make. That's not the kind of situation you want to be in," Teague said.

Plans are presently being surveyed as to how the debt will be resolved.

Spann papers to be filed Friday

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Spitz, a nationally recognized pathologist who worked on the John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King assassination investigations and recently in the O.J. Simpson case, said the similarities between the three murders were so startling they could only be the work of one person.

Most unusual, Spitz noted, was the method of strangulation - a sleeper-type hold similar to one used by police to subdue violent suspects. He called the method of strangulation a "red flag" which should have been checked out

by police investigators.

Tanay, who worked on the case of serial killer Ted Bundy, said it was obvious to him that the three murders were committed by the same person. The murderer wanted to torture the victims, not just kill them, and derived sexual pleasure from doing so, Tanay said.

He called the murders "sadistic sexual homicides."

The first victim, Mary Ring, was found in her bathtub on July 18, 1981, two months before Neill was found on Sept. 14.

Hays will decide if Spann's attorneys have gathered

enough new evidence to warrant another trial in the case. Among that evidence is the videotaped confession by William Johnny Hullitt, who is serving a life sentence for the third victim, Bessie Alexander, 69.

Hullitt and his brother-in-law had a produce sales route in the area of the deaths.

Hullitt, clad in orange coveralls, refused to answer questions about the Neill killing from either the defense or state's attorney during testimony Monday. He refused to acknowledge that he confessed to the Neill murder.

Homeless issue tackled by county

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of the closing concerns about funding the organization was

that it seemed that Rowan County is not interested in federal money for housing,

though the cities of Salisbury and Kannapolis have already put in bids for it.

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