



### PROMISES, PROMISES

Making a pledge for the new year? Here's how to keep yours 1B



### A LEAGUE BY ITSELF

'Blitz: The League' game passes on licensing to show the underside of pro football/8C

### ROCKETTE POWER

Historic Charlotte visit draws to an end/1D



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# 2005

## The year that was and the challenges to come

By Herbert L. White  
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Charlotte grew and was more troubled in 2005.

The city continued to attract people from across the U.S., but that growth also exposed some cracks in Charlotte's shiny veneer. Start with public schools, where debates grew from pupil assignment to allegations of intimidation among school board members.

The arts also made a comeback of sorts, with the corpo-

rate community jumping in to fund facilities uptown, including a new Afro-American Cultural Center, with an endowment.

Public safety also became a larger issue. At the start of this week, 84 homicides were recorded, the most in 10 years. With election season looming, City Council announced a committee to study the issue, especially the growing number of killings among African

Please see 2005/8A



Foxx

IN: Anthony Foxx brings young blood to Charlotte City Council

OUT: Beverly Cureton unceremoniously dumped as Afro Center director



FILE PHOTO/CALVIN FERGUSON

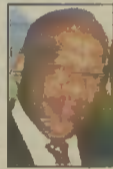
## Spying prompts talk of sanctions

Some lawmakers believe president Bush should be impeached

By Hazel Trice Edney  
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

WASHINGTON — President Bush's authorization of a secret domestic spying program and his fierce defense of his action is leading to talk of possible impeachment.

"In my opinion, the President has violated the law, and the House and Senate must pursue their inquiries into this illegal program. George W. Bush is the president. He is not a king. He is not above the law," U.S. Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.) said last week. "I look forward to further inquiry in the House and Senate on these matters. The American people deserve the truth. We must gather the facts and determine once and for all whether the law was violated. There is no question that the U.S. Congress has impeached presidents for lesser



Lewis

Please see DOMESTIC/2A

### NEWSMAKERS OF THE YEAR



PHOTO/CALVIN FERGUSON

Charlotte Bobcats President Ed Tapscott, Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority President Tim Newman and former Charlotte mayor pro tem Patrick Cannon led Charlotte's successful bid for the CIAA basketball tournament, the second largest conference tournament in the U.S.

## CIAA win a championship moment

After years of near-misses, Charlotte finally earns elusive college sports prize

By C. Jemal Horton  
FOR THE CHARLOTTE POST

Shoulder to shoulder, armed with a modest dauntlessness and a presentation for the ages, Charlotte's sports business dream team traipsed into Norfolk, Va., and dazzled the CIAA Board of

### Directors.

This was Nov. 15, 2004.

A triumvirate of community leaders - Patrick Cannon, Tim Newman and Ed Tapscott - had been charged with making the trip and presenting a bid to bring the popular CIAA Tournament to

### the Queen City.

Tapscott, president of the Charlotte Bobcats, opened the presentation that day by informing the CIAA about the benefits of the new uptown arena, which wasn't set to open for several months but, Tapscott assured,

would be the ideal venue for the tournament.

Newman, Chief Executive Officer of the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority, served as "the banker," laying out the city's commitment to provide scholarship

Please see CIAA/2A

Makheru (Fess) Bradley helps Candace Ballen light candles during the annual Charlotte Kwanzaa celebration Tuesday at Little Rock AME Zion Church. Kwanzaa continues through Jan. 2.



PHOTO/CALVIN FERGUSON

## Uganda guilty of looting neighbor

### GLOBAL INFORMATION NETWORK

The International Court of Justice has found Uganda guilty of plundering the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The court ruled that Uganda was responsible for human rights abuses when it sent troops there in 1998. The 16-judge panel ruled Ugandan troops had committed "acts of torture and killing" against Congolese civilians, "trained child soldiers" and "incited eth-

### nic conflict."

The Hague-based court is the highest judicial organ of the United Nations; its ruling is final and cannot be appealed.

"Given the character of the internationally wrongful acts for which Uganda has been found responsible... the Court finds that Uganda has an obligation to make reparation for the injury caused. Congo wants Uganda to pay \$10 billion.

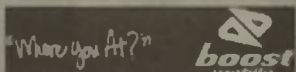
Rwanda and Uganda say they entered Congo to neutralize

rebel groups operating there. Initially, the two countries were welcomed by the late President Desire Kabila, but later fell out with the DRC government.

"We are very happy that international law has finally listened to our case," Henri Mova Sakanyi, a spokesman for the Congolese government said shortly after the ruling.

Uganda argued that its troops were in Congo as an act of self defense to neutralize rebels who were operating from there.

Cellular providers market to younger audience with hip hop themes 1C



INSIDE

Life 1B  
Religion 8B

Sports 1C  
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A&E 1D  
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