

EDUCATION

Family Tradition

Naeemah James is third generation spelling champ

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

North Elementary School fourth grader Naeemah James is a third-generation spelling bee champ. Naeemah's mother Candice Hunter James won the school spelling bee when she was a student at North. Her mother Anna Genell Hunter Crank was the top speller at Compact School.

"I thought it was unique," Candice James said. Naeemah won on the word "testify." She advances to county-wide competition Feb. 24. She and her mother are reviewing spelling words every night.

James credits their spelling ability on being avid readers. Naeemah's favorites are the Box Car Children, Harry Potter and the Babysitter Club series. As a child, her mom read Nancy Drew, Hardy Boys and Bobsy Twins books. Today James likes inspirational writers Juanita Bynum and Joyce Meyer in addition to fiction writers like Jerome Dickey.

James' son Bakari James, a first grader at North Elementary, is also doing exceptionally well in school. "I'm really blessed," James said. "Both my kids like to read." James' grandmother Alberta Hunter, who she calls her inspiration, helps with the children.



ANDIE L. BRYMER/HERALD
Naeemah James, front, won the North Elementary spelling bee this year. Standing behind Naeemah is her mother Candice Hunter James who won the bee when she was a student at North.

Lynch KMIS spelling champ

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

Correctly spelling "ivory" has earned Kings Mountain Intermediate School sixth-grader Abby Lynch a trip to the county spelling bee.

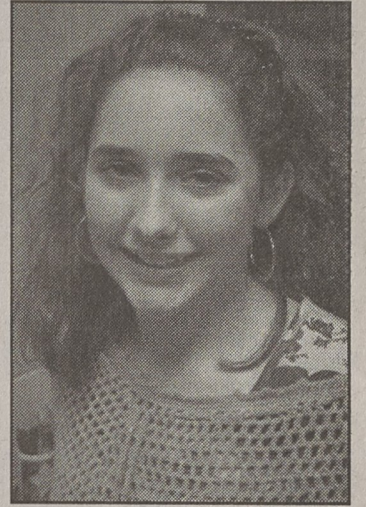
To prepare for the Jan. 21 bee at KMIS, Lynch reviewed a spelling book. Neighbor and classmate Lea Zwick helped her with this. Lynch believes reading also was beneficial.

Now that she's headed to county competition, Lynch added a dictionary to her study routine. Lynch plans to get a good night's sleep and pray.

"I know God will help me through it," she said.

Lynch hopes to study medicine at UNC-Chapel Hill and then work at a children's clinic.

Assistant principal Gary Statler, guidance counselor Janet Smith and librarian Tonnie Barefield served as



ABBY LYNCH

judges. Assistant principal Roxanne Bridges was the announcer.

Statler believes the bee gives students a chance to compete and honors academic achievement.

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EDUCATION

Davis on honor roll at Limestone College

Angela D. Davis of Kings Mountain was named to the honor roll list for the fall semester at Limestone College in Gaffney, SC.

In order to be named to the honor roll list, students must earn a grade point average of 3.75 or higher on Limestone's 4.0 grading scale, and must have no failures or incompletes.

Justin Smith on Wake dean's list

Charles Justin Smith of Kings Mountain was named

to the dean's list for the fall semester at Wake Forest University.

To make the list one must achieve a 3.0 or higher grade point average.

Local students on UNC dean's list

Numerous students from the Kings Mountain area made the dean's list for the fall semester at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

To make the list one must earn at least a 3.2 grade point average on a 4.0 scale while taking 15 or more letter grade credit hours. They

are also eligible if they earn a 3.5 grade point average while taking at least 12 letter grade quarter hours. Students must have no grades lower than a C.

Students making the list, and their major, were Angela Iliia Brice, biology; LaDonna Brown, exercise and sport science; Stacey Etta Costner, psychology; Allison E. Hager, journalism and mass communication; Lindsay E. Hamrick, middle grades education; Donald Lee Henderson Jr., exercise and sports science; Rachel Lynne Hughes, business administration; Kimberly Renee Jackson, political science; David Crews Moschler, per-

forming music; Alexander Harrison Queen, undecided; Mary J. Smith, performing music; and Evelyn Virginia Ware, international studies.

Gangoo earns BS at UNC Chapel Hill

Basit Rashid Gangoo of Kings Mountain received a BS in Chemistry at the conclusion of the fall semester at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Rebecca E. Jo of Carrboro received a Bachelor of Arts in Biology.

Barry Wilson 'Caught in Act'

Kings Mountain High student Barry Wilson was "Caught in the Act" showing January's character education trait of self-discipline.

Wilson was nominated by one of his teachers, Holly Melton. Last semester, he encountered some problems and ended up dropping out of school. He returned this semester to re-enroll and has started over with a fresh, positive attitude. Even though his withdrawal last semester will prevent him

from becoming an early graduate like he planned, Mrs. Melton writes "he still came back to school with the intention of earning a high school diploma."

Trevaras Wilson was runner-up. He was nominated by his English teacher, Tara Fleisher, because he voluntarily checked out a textbook so he could do work outside of class that was not required. "He has shown great self-discipline by doing extra work so he can better understand the material," Mrs. Fleisher noted.

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