

## Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Congratulations to All of our Benjamin E. Mays High School heroes and heroines!!! All of you who did so much with so little and not enough!! Who thrived, learned and succeeded in spite of the second and third hand books, materials and equipment provided.

God bless all of our scholars, athletes and high school leaders who grew up to become doctors, PhD's, teachers, preachers, businessmen/women, supervisors, managers, nurses, military leaders, scientists, college professors, great factory workers, community leaders, inspirational fathers, mothers, aunts, uncles, grandparents and siblings.

Most of all, thank God for our wonderful mentoring teachers and preachers and our great parents - on whose shoulders we stand!!

This ad is brought to you by the:  
Dawkins Wellness Group, a Shaklee business  
owned and operated by Avis and Terry  
Dawkins.

We provide premium quality natural vitamins, personal care products, household products, tap water filtration systems and outstanding wellness business opportunities for all!!

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# CLASS OF 1966 CELEBRATES 2011 BENJAMIN E. MAYS COMBINED SCHOOL REUNION

Labor Day Weekend  
September 2 - 4, 2011

Middle School of Pacolet  
(aka B.E. Mays Consolidated School)

Summit Pointe Meeting & Events Center  
Spartanburg, South Carolina

## 1966 CLASS ROSTER

|                    |                    |                      |                         |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Johnny Anderson*   | Wilbert Gist*      | Patricia McBeth      | Mattie Richardson       |
| Kendrick Anderson* | Marion Hardy*      | Doris McCollum       | James Russell*          |
| Robin Bailey*      | Roy Harris         | Henry McKissick*     | Linda Smith             |
| Maggie Camp        | Helen Jeter        | Mary McKissick       | Lizzie Smith            |
| Janice Dawkins     | Tommy Jeter        | Loretto Mockabee     | John William (JW) Smith |
| Peggy Dawkins*     | Mary Johnson       | Paul Morgan          | Alonza Stewart*         |
| Myrtle Dover       | Betty Lewis        | Cornelia Murphy      | Walter "Pete" Tinsley * |
| Quinnon Dover      | David Lewis        | Alberta Norris       | Bessie Tucker           |
| Patsy Foster       | Constance Lightner | Rosemond Prysock     | Michael Wannamaker      |
| James Fitzpatrick  | Henry Lindsay      | Paul Reed*           | Tyrone Wheeler          |
| Eddie Gaffney*     | Bill Logan         | Robert Reed          | Elretha Wilkins         |
| James Gaffney      | Noah Makupson*     | Theodore "Bo" Reid * | James Wilson            |

\*Deceased

Submitted by:  
John William "JW" Smith

In Honor of Our Mother

Mrs. Sabra Rice

96<sup>th</sup> Birthday: April 22, 2011



*Who can find a virtuous woman: For her price is far above rubies. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain; but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.*

*Proverbs 3:1, 28-31*

*\*\*\*Children\*\*\**

*Mr. Earl Rice*

*Dr. Horace Richard Rice*

*Mrs. Margaret Poleman*

*Mrs. Mary Ann Yancey*

*Mrs. Gloria Jean Alston*

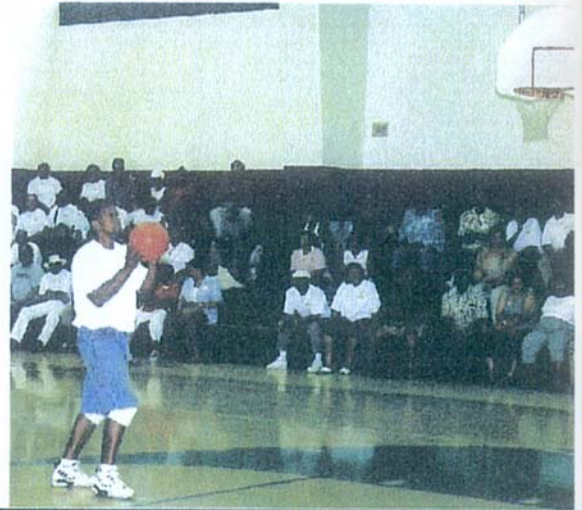
**Best Wishes  
from  
Johnny Green's Family**



L. -R. Willie, Johnny - Class of '62, Josiah, Jeremiah, Jermaine  
and Syreeta

**Unsung Hero Wins  
Legend Skill Basketball Game 2003  
71-66  
against Dennis Farr  
who holds the record for 66 straight Free  
Throws at Broome**

**Lamont Carpenter  
Class of '64**



**In Memory of  
Coleman Dean Dawkins**

**(Class of '62)**



**A member of the 'Greatest Basketball Team'  
in Mays High School History  
1961 - 62 Season**

**Your Teammates: "The Brackett Boys"  
Clarence & Douglas**

In Honor of My Mother  
Mrs. Juanita Wallace

In Memory of My Grandmother

Essie Knuckles

and

Sister Kitty Knuckles



James Perrin Knuckles

Class of 1965



I, Elizabeth McKissick  
enjoyed my years at B.E. Mays.  
I was inspired by all my teachers  
there. My classmates were great.  
I am single. I have a god  
daughter - Kiera Palmer. She is  
in college. I retired from ADO  
Draperly Corporation as a  
Draperly Technician. It was  
interesting. Now, I am enjoying  
life.

*In Loving Memory of*

*My Brothers*

*Lewis Gentry*

*Class of 1965*

*Allen Gentry*

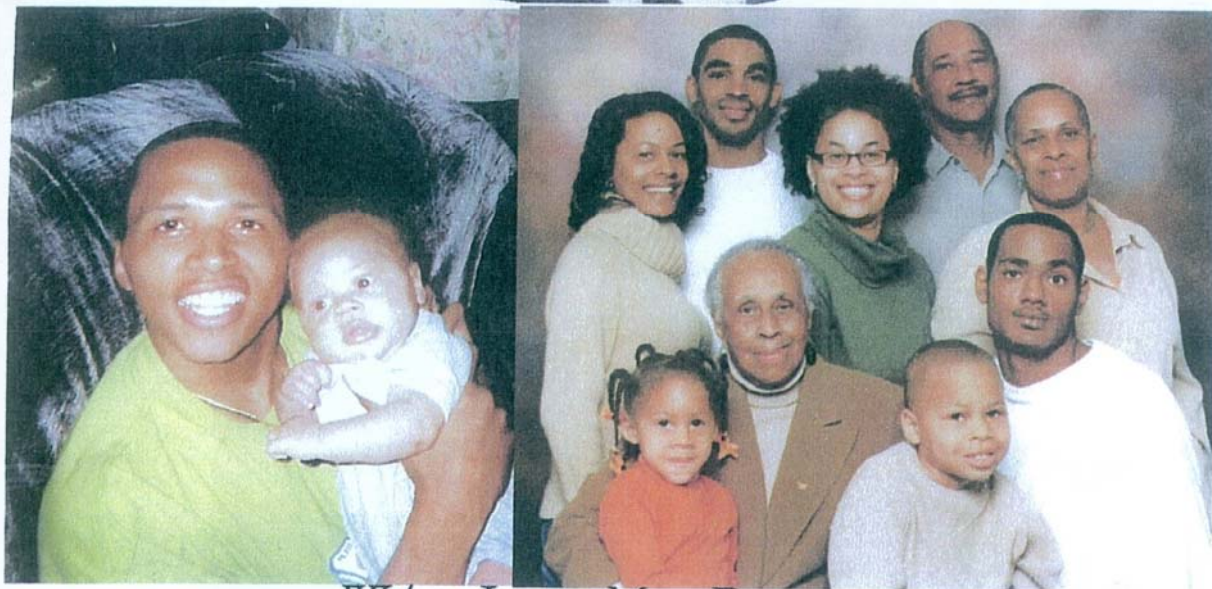
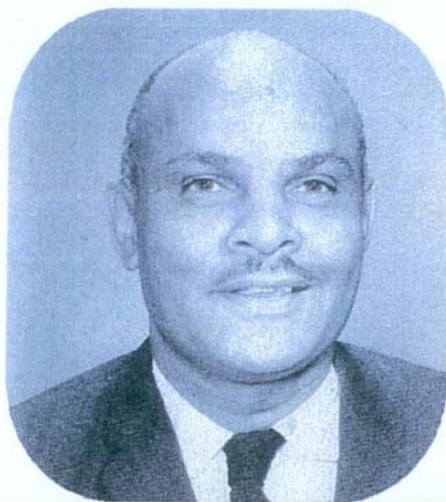
*Class of 1970*

*Your Sister,*

*Betty Gentry Hayes*

*Class of 1956*

*In Loving Memory  
of  
Mr. Edward West Brown  
We Love and Miss You!*



*Wife - Jessie Mae Brown  
Daughter - Audrey Brown Grant (Robert C.)  
Grand daughters - Veronica Holt Talton (Roland)  
Patrice Holt Hardy (Scott)  
Grandson - Trevor C. Grant  
Great-grandchildren  
Scott Hardy II  
Elizabeth Hardy  
Samara Carter*

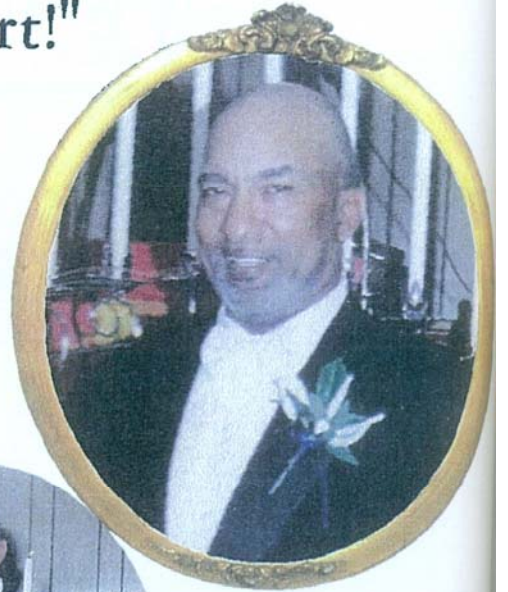
In Memory of My  
Loving Husband, The Late  
**Robin David Bailey, Sr**

*December 10, 1947*

-

*May 15, 2011*

"Forever in my heart!"



Your Loving Wife,  
Stephanie



June 22, 1940

March 10, 2010

In Memory of My Wife

**Melissa Ann Buckson Patton,**

My loving wife of 51 years,  
the love of my life and mother of our four  
children.

May she rest in peace and in our hearts forever.

Rev. James Patton, Jr.



*In Loving Memory  
of  
My Family Members*



*Delmus Dover - Father  
Lillie Dover - Mother  
Maxie Dover - Brother  
Burlee Wilkins - Aunt*



**BEST WISHES FROM BONCILE**



**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**

Boncile Levon Dover McCollum - Class of '62

BA Degree - Claflin College - Orangeburg, SC

MS Degree - University of Tennessee - Knoxville, TN

First Teaching Position - Carver High School - Spartanburg, SC

Retired from SC School for the Deaf after 35 years of Teaching

Alternative Special Education Teacher -Spartanburg School District Three

Interpreter for Deaf Students - Spartanburg Technical College

Interpreter for Deaf Students mainstreamed to Dorman High School, Gable Middle School  
& E.P. Todd Elementary School

Currently - Residential Advisor - SC School for the Deaf

*Best Wishes Benjamin E. Mays on a smooth Reunion  
In Loving Memory of our Parents, Brother  
and Grandparents*



*Mr. & Mrs. Frank Smith (Hazel)*

*Mr. Frank "Big Eye" Smith*

*Deacon & Mrs. Capus Littlejohn (Levenia)*

Love, Gloria, Mary, Donna, Harold (aka Smoke) and Fitzgerald.

*In Loving Memory  
of  
Bobby Fincher*



*We Love and Miss You.  
Your Wife and Children  
Georgia, Jacqueline and Michael  
Fincher*

*In Loving Memory*  
*Mr. Raymond Dawkins 1910 -1971*

*Mrs. Mozelle Dover Dawkins 1913 - 2010*



*We will always remember the sacrifices you made for us. With all our love, we give thanks to God for you for helping us to become who we all are today and for all we have accomplished because of your dedication to our education at the Cowpens Colored School, Ralph J. Bunche School, B.E. Mays Consolidated School - and beyond...*

*Thank you for the inspiration, thank you for the guidance. Thank you for the wisdom and knowledge, thank you for the help. Most of all we thank you for the love!*

*Your Children,*

*Robert ('57), Joe ('60), Charles ('60), Carolyn ('63), & Janice ('66)*  
*&*  
*Rosemary (d..1957)*

## In Loving Memory



**Mrs. Willie Mae Smith**  
9/30/1912 -1/6/2004

**Mr. Bennie Smith**  
12/4/1904 - 9/19/1994

**Mr. Victor Lindsay (son)**  
5/7/1926 - 2/26/1952

**Mr. Vernon Smith (son)**  
2/5/1930 - 7/9/2003

**Mr. Columbus Smith (son)**  
8/2/1931 - 6/23/1952

**Mrs. Erlean Smith Baker**  
2/26/1945 - 6/18/2007

**Mr. Nelson "Danny" Smith (grandson)**  
5/21/1957 - 1/28/2003

Precious ones from us are gone--voices we love are stilled.  
A place is vacant in our hearts that never can be filled.

They will not be forgotten; though on earth, they are no more.  
But they will be with us in memory as they always were before.



We dedicate this page to our beloved brother, Eddie Dean Gaffney. We miss you so much. The world is not the same without you. There is a missing link in our chain of siblings that can never be replaced. The most important part of the chain, our mother and father have you embraced in their arms in Heaven. We love and miss you all.

Joyce

Blondell

Joel

Larry

Scotty

Bessie Thomas - Foster  
 From Spartanburg, South Carolina  
 Elementary School - Ralph J. Bunch - Cowpens, SC  
 High School - Benjamin E. Mays - Pacolet, SC  
 Colleges - Durham Business College, Durham, NC  
 Borough of Manhattan Community College - New York  
 Work - Mount Sinai Hospital - New York  
 Business Associate - 45 years



Sons: Elton Foster, Jr. & Alexander J. Foster

Gloria Gist - Russell  
 From Cowpens, South Carolina  
 Elementary School - Ralph J. Bunche  
 High School - Benjamin E. Mays  
 College - Durham Business College - Durham, NC  
 Work - Johnson C. Smith College  
 Charlotte, NC  
 40 years as Secretary

Son: Stephen Russell

In Memory of My  
 Nephew

Eddie Dean Gaffney  
 Class of 66  
 Mrs. Jessie Mae Brown

Congratulations to the  
 Benjamin E. Mays  
 Reunion  
 Committee  
 for a job well done!  
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis Oglesby  
 (Mae Helen Tinsley)

Congratulations and  
 Warmest Wishes  
 to the  
 B.E. Mays Reunion  
 Committee  
 and all the attendees.  
 May God continue to bless  
 you and keep you in His  
 care.

Love,  
 Joann Gault-Copeland

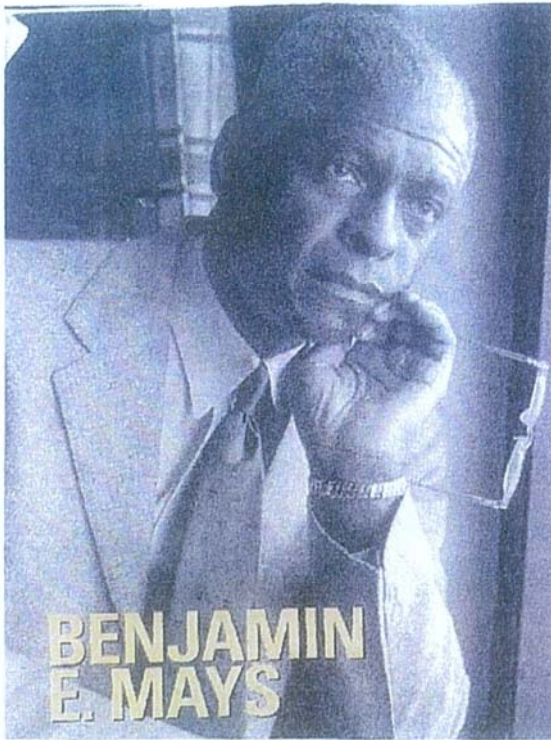
The Class of '63 - Reflectrions..  
 A snap shot of memories from the past in honor  
 and in memory of my beloved classmates.

Prinipal: Mr. John D. Blanding  
 Senior Advisor: Mr. Monson Owens, Jr.  
 Class Motto: "Of Footprints and Time"  
 Class Colors: Blue and Gold  
 Class Poem: "A Psalm of Life" by Longfellow (Stanza  
 #7 was our favorite)-:"Lives of great men all remind  
 us... We can make our lives sublime...And, departing  
 leave behind us...Footprints on the sands of time."  
 Class Song: "You'll Never Walk Alone"  
 Senior Play: April 13, 1963 "Dead Man's Bluff"  
 Senior Trip - May 1963 The Gordon Motel - Atlantic  
 Beach, SC  
 Senior Prom - May 3, 1963 Theme:"Evening in Paris"  
 Band: The Yakety Yaks  
 Commencement Exercises - May 19, 1963  
 Annual Sermon- William A. Dyson, Minister, Walkers  
 Memorial Church- Spartanburg, SC  
 May 24, 1963 - Commencement Program: Class  
 Roster of 33 members. Graduating with  
 Honors:Valedictorian, Evelyn Juanita Smith  
 Salutatorian; Corrie Ann Smith, S.T. Foster, Carolyn  
 Sue Dawkins, Arrie Orlene Davis, Barbara Ann  
 Crawford and Ned Shand  
 Congratulations B. E. Mays Consolidated School and  
 Class of '63 on your "final "All School Reunion!"  
*Carolyn S Dawkins Fields, BE.Mays ('63)*  
*& Boyce Fields, Jr. G.W. Carver High School ('63)*



*ARTICLES*  
*OF INTEREST*  
*AS*  
*PUBLISH*  
*IN THE*  
*SPARTANBURG*  
*HERALD JOURNAL*





"Go forth and do something worthwhile in the world."  
(Photo by B&B Studio)

## 'Don't Be So Easily Satisfied'

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays delivered the graduation address at the 17th annual commencement exercises of the Benjamin E. Mays High School in Pacolet Mills Wednesday night.

Mays, President Emeritus of Morehouse College in Atlanta, told the 29 graduates that the "future belongs to the young."

"Go forth and do something worthwhile in the world," the educator, civic leader and writer told the graduates.

Mays urged the graduates to master a skill or an art because "no one is free unless he is a master of a skill. You can never be free if you do not have a skill."

The holder of 23 honorary degrees urged the young people to set high goals in their activities. "You are too easily satisfied. If you are satisfied, you are finished."

Mays was Dean of the School of Religion at Howard University for six years. He served as the president of Morehouse College from 1940 to 1967. A graduate of Bates College, Mays earned his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Chicago.

Benjamin E. Mays High School will close its doors as high school this week. The school will reopen in the fall as a Middle School. Mays students will be transferred to Pacolet

Class of 1963

# Mays High Service Set Today

**PACOLET** — Commencement exercises at Benjamin E. Mays School will be held at the school gymnasium Friday at 8 p. m. Principal John D. Blanding has announced.

A total of 33 students are candidates for diplomas.

The baccalaureate sermon will be preached in the gymnasium by the Rev. William A. Dyson, pastor of Walker Memorial Methodist Church, today at 5 p. m.

The valedictorian will be Evelyn Juanita Smith and salutatorian will be Corrie Ann Littlejohn.

Special honors go to S. T. Foster, Carolyn Dawkins, Arline Davis, Ned Shands, Gary Lewis and Barbara Crawford.

The following are candidates for diplomas:

Dorothy A. Brown, Davis Byars Jr., Barbara A. Crawford, Arline Davis, Carolyn S. Dawkins, Donald W. Dawkins, Lawrence Fair, Larry Foster, S. T. Foster, Connell Gentry, Gloria A. Gist, Ruth A. Gist, Willie L. Gist, Hazel Hemphill and Majorie Hill.

Also, Dianne Hughes, Margie A. Johnson, Garry L. Lewis, Corrie A. Littlejohn, Richard Lipscomb, Norman E. McMahan, Shirley M. Mings, Bernestine Mitchell, Willie M. Murphy, Ned Shand, Marvin G. Simpson, Ervin Smith, Evelyn J. Smith, Charles L. Teamer, Bessie L. Thomas, Clarence L. Wilburn, Wallace Williams and Charles Wood.

Class of 1968



Uzee  
Brown Jr.

Judy Ann  
Foster

## MAYS TO HOLD GRADUATION FRIDAY NIGHT

Commencement exercises for graduates of Benjamin E. Mays High School at Pacolet Mills will be held Friday night at 8 in the school gymnasium.

Uzee Brown Jr is valedictorian and Judy Ann Foster is salutatorian.

Mrs. Alberta Daniels, a retired teacher, will present the Daniels Award to an outstanding graduate.

Other members of the class are Yvonne Brown, Eddie Byrd, Dennis Byrd, Willie Byrd, Elishus Byars, Charles Buckson, Alma Dowberry, Ruby Davis, Joe Hardy, John Hoey, James Henderson, Andrew Hill, Robert Johnson, Sherry Johnson, Martha Johnson, Josephine Lowrance, Bennie Long Jr., Joe Q. Littlejohn, Ray Makupson, Lonnie Maybit, Vickey McCracken, Diane Mings, Henry Mitchell, Mae F. Murphy, Judy Oglesby, Nettie Palmer, Alonzo Richardson, Judy Tucker, Terry Wilkins, Evelyn West.

W. Leroy Myers is principal.

"The beds and pillows are pretty," says the Deaf and Blind.

# Horace Rice's Mother Has Reason To Be Proud

By FRANCES UPCHURCH  
Staff Writer

Sabra Rice of Pacolet never thought her son Horace would achieve as much as he has in the past 20 years. She certainly is proud of him.

Horace was born and grew up in Pacolet. He graduated from Benjamin E. Mays High School in 1959. He had no desire to attend college.

He went directly to work as a surgery orderly at Spartanburg General Hospital. He worked one year, until he realized that he would have to go to college if he wanted to make the most of his abilities.

During that same year, Horace Rice also became increasingly active in his work at Gethsemane Baptist Church. He was elected Sunday School superintendent and later ordained a deacon.

He says, "I prayed to God to bless me with a full life—a life that would contribute to the advancement of other lives. My church work gave me confidence. I believed that God would bless me in my college endeavors."

Rice was one of five children. His father Steve made ends meet by working as a carpenter's helper at the S.C. School for the Deaf and Blind at Cedar Spring.

His mother remembers, "We were poor and didn't have anything. I always wondered how Horace was going to do it when he talked about going to college. But he said there would be a way."

Rice applied and was accepted as a student at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte in August, 1961. He also was hired as an orthopedic attendant at Charlotte Memorial Hospital. Even he may not have fully realized it then, but he was on his way.

"With \$50 and a lot of faith in God, I packed my bags," he says.

When he arrived in Charlotte, the college treasurer told him he could not register without the (then) full initial tuition payment of \$120.

"I demanded to see the college president," Rice says. "I informed him that I had only \$50 and needed that money for bus fare and meals at work until my first payday in two weeks. I promised to make all payments before the end of the school year."

The school's chief officer waived the ini-

tial payment and allowed Rice to pay his tuition in monthly installments.

For the next four years the determined young man worked the 11 p.m.-7 a.m. shift at the hospital, six days a week. "I got off work at 7 and rode the bus back to campus. At 7:30, I rushed to my dorm room and changed clothes. I went to breakfast at 7:45 and then to class at 8."

His last class ended at 3 p.m. He rushed to the library for an hour's study. He returned to his room at 4:30 and slept till his room mate awakened him at 8:30. Then he dressed for work, dropped by the library for another hour with his books and caught the bus for work at 10.

"I can remember taking 30-second naps standing on the elevator while traveling from the first to the top floor of the hospital," he recalls.

Rice was tempted many times to chuck the whole thing and go home, but he held fast. He received his bachelor of arts degree in psychology and sociology in May, 1965. He accepted a job as guidance counselor for Virginia's Bedford County Schools. He also enrolled in the master's program at the University of Virginia.

In 1967, he was called by the draft again. He had received three deferrals because of his schooling and job. He was inducted into the Army and trained as an armed reconnaissance scout. Rice was sent to Korea where he worked in the hostile fire zone of the DMZ (Demilitarized Zone).

He returned to his Bedford County job in 1969 and began to diversify his goals.

Rice earned his master's degree in 1973, he was ordained for the ministry and subsequently became pastor at New Green Mountain Baptist Church in Esmont, Va. He also involved himself in numerous other religious, educational, civic and political efforts.

He married. He and his wife Gloria had two daughters, Joylyn, 6, and Hollie, 14 months.

In July of this year, Rice was employed as an administrator for the Culpeper County (Va.) Schools. In August, he was awarded the Doctor of Education degree in counseling and educational research and statistics, administration and supervision.

Now Dr. Rice, he says, "I feel that the

needed to see the college president says. "I informed him that I had and needed that money for bus fare and meals at work until my first payday in two weeks. I promised to make all payments before the end of the school year."

The school's chief officer waived the ini-



DR. HORACE RICE

In July of this year, Rice was employed as an administrator for the Culpeper County (Va.) Schools. In August, he was awarded the Doctor of Education degree in counseling and educational research and statistics, administration and supervision.

Now Dr. Rice, he says, "I feel that the quality of a person's life is more important than the quantity. I have been successful because people have had faith in me."

He mentions Buddy Brown, owner of Brown's Store in Pacolet, who helped him financially with loans during his college years; Mrs. Janie Goodwin Cooper, formerly a teacher at Mays High School, now at Spartanburg High, who encouraged him to go to college, and all the people of Pacolet who encouraged him to keep the faith.

He says, "I want to thank Mother and Daddy who instilled in me the courage to do what I want to do in life. They told me I should not expect anyone to give me anything; that I should earn my way through life."

"And, I want to thank my Lord and Saviour for his blessings."

Rice doesn't get a chance to return to his hometown, Pacolet, very often, but he will always love it.

He visited once during the summer. His only complaint his mother had was, "I'm keeping too busy. But I'm proud he's doing well."

1960



GOINS      LIPSCOMB

### GET SCHOLARSHIPS

Four seniors have been awarded \$500 annual scholarships by Spartanburg County Foundation. They are Vergie Blalock and John D. Lowry Jr., both of Spartanburg High, Barbara Goins of Career, and Calvin Lipscomb of Benjamin Mays High. Total value of each award is \$2,000. The Foundation annually awards a scholarship to Wellford and Converse and two to Wellford and Converse and two to Negro colleges in South Carolina. Young Lowry is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Lowry of 225 W. Hampton Avenue. Vergie Blalock is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy (Bessie) Blalock. Barbara Goins is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Goins Sr.

### County Girls Win 4 of 6 Four-H Titles

Spartanburg County girls won four out of six first prizes in 4-H district elimination contests involving 10 other counties at the Lincoln High School in Greenville Friday.

In addition, one third-place prize was won. First-place winners were Junior corn meal muffin, Boncille Dover of Ralph J. Bunche Elementary School in Cowpens, Mrs. Jessie Mae Giles, leader.

Senior corn meal muffin, Carolyn Gentry of Benjamin E. Mays High School in Pacolet, Mrs. Lessie High, leader.

Chicken spoonbread, Kay Frances Booker of Florence Chapel High School at Wellford, Mrs. Jessie Mae Brown, leader.

### Negro 4-H Girls In Competition

Spartanburg County Negro 4-H Club girls who will participate in district elimination contests at Newberry on May 6 have been announced.

They are: Shirley Wallace, Foster's Grove High School; Boncille Dover, Mays High School; Marilyn Keith, Lincoln Public School; Eddie Mae Jones, Foster's Grove; Betty Jean Campbell, Foster's Chapel Elementary School; and Cheryll Joe Suber, Foster's Grove High School.

1956



Whittenburg

Boncille D. Whittenburg, a teacher at the South Carolina School for the Deaf, recently received the master of science degree in deaf education from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Miss Whittenburg is a graduate of Mays High School. She received the B.A. degree from Ciffin College and studied further at Minot State College in North Dakota.

1973

### Youth Places In Talent Contest

PACOLET — Tommy Webster, 15, of Pacolet recently won fourth place in the New Farmers of American National Talent Contest in Atlanta.

Webster is a sophomore at Benjamin E. Mays High School. He was first place winner in the federation, district, state and section talent divisions.

Webster plays the piano. He is a music pupil of Mrs. Julius Long of Union, J. D. Blanding is his advisor.

1960

Uzee Brown Jr. of Cowpens will be on tour with the Morehouse College Glee Club later this month. The Glee Club will perform in several African nations, including Ethiopia, Ghana and Uganda.

Brown, a graduate of Benjamin E. Mays High School, is a senior music major at Morehouse College in Atlanta.

1972

### Explorer Scout Post Formed At Mays School

Explorer Scout Post 290 has been organized at Benjamin E. Mays School in Pacolet.

The new organization has six charter members: Joseph Smith, Bobby Palmer, William Hempfull, Jr., Jerry Bailey, Calvin Lipscomb, and Allen Curry Jr.

Adult leaders are: Edward W. Brown, E. R. Junkin, William Bethca, Ervin Dawkins and Jessie Rogers.

A boy scout troop and cub pack were organized at the school last year.

### Terry Dawkins Gets Study Aid

Terry Dawkins, son of Mrs. Hettie Dawkins of Cowpens, a junior at Morehouse College in Atlanta has been awarded a \$3,000 scholarship to study in Europe for one year, his mother said Thursday.

# N.Y. Times Group names McCollum HR vice president

February 1997

Otis S. McCollum, a native of Pacolet, has been named vice president/group human resources for the New York Times Regional Newspaper Group in Atlanta, effective March 1.

McCollum is currently manager of human resources for the group and has been responsible for employee relations activities for the 21 newspapers owned by The New York Times Company, including the Herald-Journal. He has concentrated on training and development, salary administration, recruiting, employee relations and work force diversity. In his new position, he will be responsible for all of the human resources functions.



McCollum

Prior to joining The New York Times Company, he was formerly director of affirmative action programs for Hyder Systems, Inc. in Miami, Fla. Previous experience also included a position with the Southland Corporation in Dallas, Texas, as corporate human resources director.

McCollum is a graduate of South Carolina State University with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He is a 1964 graduate of Benjamin E. Mays High School of Pacolet, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter McCollum Sr. of Pacolet.

He is a member of the American Society of Newspaper Editors and currently serves on the minority affairs committee. He also serves as a facilitator for management development workshops at the American Press Institute in Boston, Va.

# MEMORIES

*Hello,*

*My name is Gloria A. Smith, had I graduated from B. E. Mays I would have been in the class of 1971.*

*I have been given the opportunity to take you on a journey of memories of the past four reunions and other events. I hope that you will enjoy the next couple of pages.*

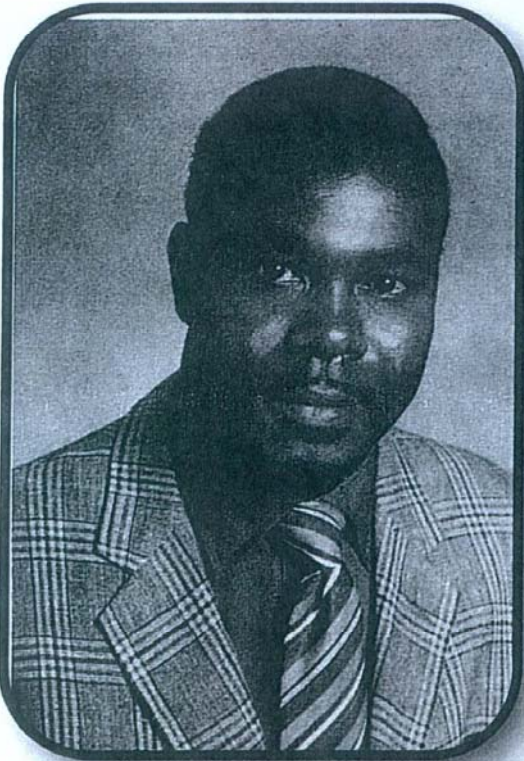
*So let's get started with the journey. Flip the page please.*



The First Benjamin E. Mays High School  
Reunion 1993

“Rekindling  
Old Acquaintances  
and  
Developing  
New Friendships”

## *The Officers for 1993*



*Mr. Lester Johnson, President*



*Patricia Durrah Coleman, Vice President*





*Elretha Miller Wade,*

*Secretary*

*Peggy Mitchell Moore, Assistant Secretary*

*Not Pictured Eula Ruth Wood, Chaplain*



*Treasurers*

*Janice McBeth*

*Lamont Carpenter*

## The Planning Committee



*Seated L to R: Don Wade, Chairperson, Elretha Miller Hymes  
Standing L to R: Levator Logan Williams, Josephine Ellis,  
Gloria A. Smith*

# Year Book & Fund Raising Committee

*Levator Logan Williams — Chairman*



*Patricia Williams Logan  
Organization*



*Frances Logan  
Organization*



*Bill Logan  
Cover and Memorial*



*Patricia McBeth Logan  
Cover and Memorial*



*Thelma Prysock Oglesby  
Advertising*



*Margean Prysock  
Advertising*

# Food Committee



Josephine Ellis

Nancy Dawkins — Chairman

Patricia Durrafi Coleman



Ancie Tucker



Bullet, Poneice and Bill showing off the 1<sup>st</sup> B. E. Mays reunion T-Shirts.. Looks good don't it.



I really want to tell Gloria to get it together with the music. She's trying to be a D.J. and don't know how.



Pee Wee and Bessie smile big for the camera. Looking good!

# 1993 Reunion Picnic at Croft State Park

Folk will gather for food.



Ya'll better  
sell all this  
stuff, you  
don't want to  
take it home.

The 1993 B. E. Mays Reunion Banquet was held at Wilson World.  
Everybody was looking good!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



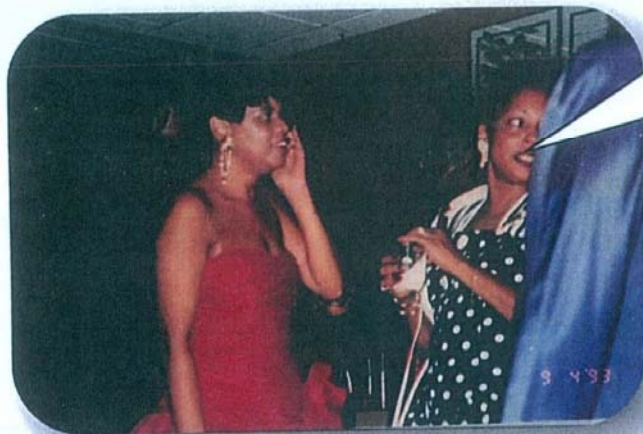
# Banquet "93"







The Banquet and Dance was a hit. Everybody enjoyed meeting and greeting old and new friends.



Doris, we know you have retired, but have you lost your hearing too?

***NOW THIS NEXT SECTION IS THE  
BAHAMAS CRUISE***



***OOPS MY MISTAKE  
I WASN'T SUPPOSE TO SHOW THIS ONE***

***KEEP FLIPING PLEASE***

# *Benjamin E. Mays High School Reunion Bahamas Cruise*

May 20 – 24, 1996

## *The Manifest*

Van & Minnie Makupson  
Patricia Coleman  
Linda Sexton  
Paul & Eunice Tinsley  
Angela Bailey  
Jerome & Ida Askew  
Boyce & Carolyn Fields  
Betty Linsley  
Thelma Oglesby  
Robert Durrah  
Donna K. & Hazel Smith  
Tracy Geter  
Wilbert Rogers  
William & Lisa Rogers  
James & Elaine Wilkins  
Viola Littlejohn  
Betty C. Lokuji  
Adury Gory  
Harold Beaty

Nancy Dawkins  
Marjean Prysock  
Tommie Goode  
Lois Ishmael  
Leon Wilburn  
Willie & Rosalyn Byrd  
Junior Richardson  
Roxie & Phillip Washington  
Janice McBeth  
Alex & Betty Gantt  
Willie M. Geter  
Carolyn Smith  
Theodore Reid, Jr.  
Earl & Betty Baxter  
John & Margie Oglesby  
Levator Williams  
Hazel Wannamaker  
Corrie Wannamaker  
Regina Simmons

*What happens in the "Bahamas" stays in the Bahamas!*



BENJAMIN E. MAYS HIGH  
SCHOOL REUNION  
BAHAMAS CRUISE  
MAY 20<sup>TH</sup> - MAY 24<sup>TH</sup> 1996

PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 1996

|                                  |                           |                  |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| SONG .....                       | "WHAT A FELLOWSHIP" ..... | CONGREGATION     |
| PRAYER .....                     | .....                     | MARGEAN PRYSOCK  |
|                                  | CHAPLAIN                  |                  |
| WELCOME .....                    | .....                     | PATRICIA COLEMAN |
|                                  | CO-CHAIRPERSON            |                  |
| THE OCCASION AND ROLL CALL ..... | .....                     | ELRETHA WADE     |
| TRIBUTE .....                    | .....                     | CAROLYN FIELD    |
|                                  | DECEASED SCHOOLMATES      |                  |
| REMARKS .....                    | .....                     | DON WADE         |
|                                  | CHAIRPERSON               |                  |

BENJAMIN E. MAYS ALMA MATER

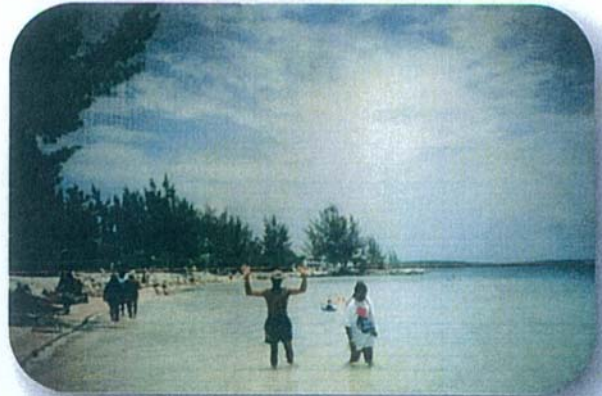
(COCKTAIL PARTY)

COMPLIMENTS OF GOLD COAST CRUISES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE YEARS 1995-1996 ARE:

Chairman - Don Wade  
Co-Chairman - Patricia Coleman  
Secretary - Thelma Oglesby  
Assistant Secretary - Patricia Logan  
Treasurer - Nancy Dawkins  
Assistant Treasurer - Robert Durrah  
Communication - Bill Logan  
Chaplain - Margean Prysock  
Fund Raiser - Levator Williams  
Members - Paul Tinsley, Elretha Wade

# B. E. Mays Cruising in 1996





Earl is the tallest so he has to make sure every body stays in the group and don't get lost.









The Third Benjamin E. Mays School Reunion  
Reunion 1998

“Reflections of  
the Pass as We  
journey to the  
21<sup>st</sup> Century”

*The 1998 School Reunion was great and as you know it takes a lot to make it happen. I would like to acknowledge the persons and companies that help make the 1998 School Reunion the success that it was.*

*Caterer*

*Ms. Cynthia Williams*  
Greenville, SC

*DJ – Music*

*Mr. Vincent Davis*  
Greenville, SC

*Schools*

*Middle School of Pacolet*  
Pacolet, SC

*Spartanburg School Distrist Three*  
Glendale, SC

*Photographer & Video*

*Mr. G.G Edwards Studio*  
Gaffney, SC

*Registration*

*Mrs. Pearl Smith Black*  
Greenville, SC

*Music Friday Night*

*Mr. Don Wade*  
Spartanburg, SC

*Music Sunday Worship*

*Mrs. Elretha M. Wade*  
Spartanburg, SC

*Programs*

*Miss Gloria A. Smith*  
Pacolet, SC

*Support*

*Mr. Jerome Littlejohn*  
Pacolet Mills, SC

*Advertisement*

*WSPA Radio, Bill Drake*  
Spartanburg, SC  
*Spartanburg Herald*  
Spartanburg, SC

*Speakers*

*Dr. Eddie Dean Gaffney*  
Atlanta, Ga.  
*Reverend James Patton*  
Spartanburg, SC

*Hotel*

*Quality Hotel and Conference Center*  
Spartanburg, SC

Worship Service at the Middle School of Pacolet

Sunday, September 6, 1998

11:00 am - 1:00pm

Presiding ..... Deacon Marion "Dooley" Miller

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Call to Worship .....                         | Deacon Marion Miller "71"*                           |
| Congregational Hymn .....                     | "Lift Every Voice and Sing"                          |
| Scripture .....                               | Mrs. Yvonne Smith McBride "65"                       |
| Prayer.....                                   | Rev. Jackie Mitchell "69"                            |
| Chant .....                                   | "Hear Our Prayer O Lord"                             |
| Offering for B.E. Mays Scholarship Fund ..... | Mr. Paul Tinsley "58"                                |
|   | Mr. Bill Logan "66"                                  |
| Offertory Prayer .....                        |  |
| Selection .....                               | Choir  |
| Lighting of Memorial Candles .....            | Mrs. Patricia McBeth Logan "66"                      |
|   | Ms. Patricia Durrah Coleman "62"                     |
| Introduction of Speaker .....                 | Mrs. Nancy Dawkins "67"                              |
| Selection .....                               | Choir  |
| The Spoken Word .....                         | Rev. James Patton, Jr.                               |
|   | (Class of 55, Pastor of White Plains Baptist Church) |
| Text .....                                    |  |
| Topic .....                                   |  |
| Invitational Hymn .....                       | "Pass Me Not"  |
| Crowning of Little Miss Mays .....            | Ms. Levator Logan Williams "64"                      |
| Presentation of Scholarship .....             | Mr. Don Wade "65"                                    |
| Remarks .....                                 | Mr. Don Wade "65"                                    |
| Announcements .....                           |  |
| Departing Selection .....                     | "The B.E. Mays Alma Mater"                           |
| Benediction .....                             | Rev. James Patton, Jr "55"                           |

"Tour of the School"

\*Denotes that the graduate attended Mays, but graduated elsewhere.

Little Miss Mays Contestants

Little Miss Tiffany Renee Fields  
Little Miss Kabrianna Janay Jeter  
Little Miss Jasmine Jones  
Little Miss Rena Denis Smith

## *Little Miss Mays High - 1998*

*Jasmin Jones is the daughter of Raisa Coleman Drummond and the grand-daughter of Patricia (Durrak) and Luther Coleman. Jasmin is nine years old and in the Fourth grade at Cowpens Elementary School.*



*Little Miss Mays High  
1998*



*Jasmin Jones*

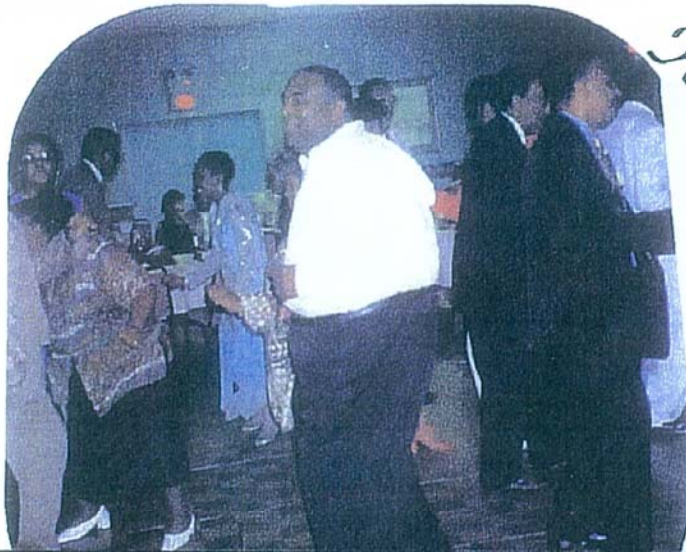


# 1998 B. E. Mays Reunion



# 1998 - Reunion

Reflections of the Past as we  
journey to the 21st Century"



*You go Jerome!*



*For several years the B. E. Mays Renaming Committee worked hard to get the name of Benjamin E. Mays back on the original school. In November of 1999 the dream came true. The name "Original Benjamin E. Mays" was replaced on the building.*

## *The Dedication Service*

*Honoring*

*Dr. Benjamin E. Mays*

*and*

*Recognition of Outstanding Educators*

*Mr. Edward West Brown*

*Mrs. Alberta Ruff Daniels*

*Mr. Monson Owens, Jr.*

*Was held November 14, 1999*

*The keynote speaker was*

*Dr. Uzee Brown of Morehouse College*

*Atlanta, Ga.*



***B. E. Mays Renaming Committee  
(1998 – 1999)***

***Officers***

*Vivian Smith Teamer (64), Chairperson  
Coy Smith Mobley (54), Vice-Chairperson  
Boncile Dover Whittenburg (62), Secretary  
Louise Maybin Woodruff (62), Assistant Secretary  
Minnie Johnson McCollum (65), Treasurer  
Josephine Reed McBeth (58), Assistant Treasurer*

***Committee Members:***

*Julius Smith (71)  
John Dickey (55)  
Betty Wannamaker Lokuji (70)  
Lester Johnson, Sr. (58), Deceased  
Clifford "Buck" Smith (60), Deceased  
Pansy Hardy Byrd (55), Deceased  
Eddie Dean Oglesby (58), Deceased*



*Tribute*  
**Benjamin E. Mays School**

*By: Boncile Dover Whittenburg*

To the Superintendent, District 3 Board of Trustees, Parents and Students of the Middle School of Pacolet, Fellow Benjamin E. Mays Panthers, visitors, friends and especially to our esteemed speaker for this auspicious occasion, our very own, Dr. Uzee Brown. There are times when the English language seems inadequate to express the profound gratitude one feels for an act that has been so graciously rendered-today is one such time. On this very special celebration, we are overwhelmed with joy and our hearts are filled with pride for the electricity of the moment. As we witness the name, "Original Benjamin E. Mays School," the plaques listing the names of former students and the portrait of Dr. Mays being unveiled, we are reminiscent of the days we shared beneath these hallowed walls. We are more than grateful to Dr. James O. Ray and the District 3 Board of Trustees for their consideration of our request. To merely say, "Thank You" would truly be an injustice of words.

As I stand before you to express encomium on behalf of all the Benjamin E. Mays constituents, I deem it an esteem pleasure to have been chosen to stand in such a place of honor.

We have long waited the day when we could see the name "Benjamin E. Mays" restored to its original place in history. Neither time nor erosion could ever erase the memories that have been indelibly etched amongst our most treasured memoirs. Today is a testimony to our love, devotion, dedication and vision for our beloved Alma Mater.

Our school claimed its rightful place in history through academics and sports. We have graduates who are successful in every aspect of education and other professional careers: medicine, the legal system, the ministry, art, music and the list goes on. As I salute the classes of 1953-1970, I extend a hearty congratulation to all of you. As I look around I can readily see that the years have been more than gracious. This afternoon we are blessed with an irrepressible spirit and a dynamic energy transmitting our power, one to the other.

WHEREAS: We, being former members of the Benjamin E. Mays School, accept with joy the celebration of the remodeling of this institution and are filled with pride for the rewarding days we shared here.

WHEREAS: This afternoon marks a milestone in our lives as a group of committed students and graduates to our school and its excellence

WHEREAS: During the past years we have continued to hold our banner high and

WHEREAS: We have lived up to the expectations and goals set forth by our former teachers and

WHEREAS: The spirit of cooperation has bonded the love for our Alma Mater with an undying allegiance

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:**

That these classes go on record as uniting in this testimonial to our cherished school and may unfaltering commitment and devotion forever live in our hearts and may the coming years continue to shower us with blessings from above.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

So that others who shall come after us may know that we passed this way, a copy of this resolution shall be placed among the archives that have been presented today and this document may serve as permanent minutes of this, the "Original Benjamin E. Mays School."

We, the undersigned do hereby, set seal and witness this Fourteenth Day of November, in the Year of our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Ninety Nine.

*Vivian Smith Foamer*, Chairperson

*Boy Smith Motley*, Assist. Chairperson

*Boncile Dover Whittenburg*, Secretary

*Louise Washburn Woodruff*, Assist. Secretary

*Minnie Johnson McCollum*, Treasurer

*Josephine McBeth*, Assist. Treasurer

*Lester Johnson*

*John Dickey*

*Fansy Hardy Byrd*

*Clifford Bernard Smith*

*Julius Smith*

*Eddie Dean Caglesby (DECEASED)*

**Dedication Service**  
**Middle School of Pacolet (Original Benjamin E. Mays School)**  
**Honoring**  
**Dr. Benjamin E. Mays**

November 14, 1999  
 3:00 pm

Welcome ..... *Mr. Paul Hughes*  
 Song.....*Congregation*  
 Invocation .....*Mr. Lester Johnson*  
 Pledge to the Flag.....*Students, Middle School of Pacolet*  
 Presentation of Miss B. E. Mays ..... *Mrs. Louise Maybin Woodruff*  
*Mr. John Dickey*

**Recognition of Outstanding Educators**

- Mr. E. W. Brown .....*Rev. Jack H. Dover & Mrs. Mamie Johnson McKay*
- Mrs. Alberta Daniel .....*Mrs. Mary Rice Yancey*
- Mr. Monson Owens, Jr..... *Mr. John W. Smith*

Introduction of Speaker .....*Dr. Eddie Gaffney*  
*Vice Provost, Student Affairs Morehouse College*  
*(1968 Graduate B. E. Mays)*

Speaker .....*Dr. Uzee Brown*  
*Dean, Sophomores/Professor of Music Morehouse College*  
*(1968 Graduate B.E. Mays)*

Song ..... *Mrs. Louise Maybin Woodruff*  
*Mrs. Evelyn Tate Shippy*  
*M. Bobby Maybin & B.E. Mays Choir*

Biographical Sketch ..... *Mrs. Betty Lokuji*

**Unveiling Ceremony**

- Introduction of B. E. Mays Renaming Committee ..... *Mr. Otis McCollum*
- Portrait ..... *Mrs. Jessie Hackett Smalls/Mr. Julius Smith*

**Plaques**

Students ..... *Mrs. Mary Miller Means/John Dickey*  
 Principals and Faculty ..... *Mrs. Pansy Byrd/Mrs. Josephine McBeth*  
**B. E. Mays Scholarship Donor** ..... *Mrs. Minnie McCollum Johnson*

(Move Outside, In Front of School)

**Unveiling Ceremony**

Name on Building ..... *Mr. Clifford Smith & B.E. Mays Renaming Committee*  
 Remarks ..... *Mrs. Vivian Smith Teamer*  
*Dr. Robert E. Glenn*  
 Alma Mater ..... *B. E. Mays and Congregation*

(Move Back Inside for Refreshments)

# PACOLET SCHOOL ADDS NEW NAME



JOHN BYRUM/STAFF

The tarp is removed at the Middle School of Pacolet to display the name of Benjamin E. Mays School. The title is called original because this was the first school to bear the Mays name.

## Benjamin E. Mays honored at rededication

By **BENNY LEE SMITH**  
Staff Writer

**W**hen Uzee Brown attended Benjamin E. Mays School in the late 1960s, he met a teacher who inspired him to pursue a career in music.

Brown, who went on to earn a doctorate in music, returned to his alma mater Sunday afternoon to help rededicate the school in Mays' name.

More than 300 people showed up for the two-hour event which included an unveiling of a portrait of Mays, plaques with names of former students and faculty who attended the school during the 1950s, '60s and '70s.

At that time, the school was known as the Benjamin E. Mays School. That name was changed to the Middle School of Pacolet in the early '80s. Now it will be known as Middle School of Pacolet/Original Benjamin E. Mays School.

A majority of the crowd at Sunday's dedication were former students, faculty and staff.

"Today just happens to be my birthday. And I can think of no better present than to see the name of Benjamin E. Mays nailed upon the walls of this school of which I am proud to call my alma mater," said Brown during the ceremony in the school gym.

*MAYS continued on A10*



Minie Johnson McCollum, left, and Betty Wannamaker Lokuji unveil the portrait of Benjamin E. Mays on Sunday during the rededication ceremony of the Middle School of Pacolet.

### BENJAMIN E. MAYS

A look at some of the career accomplishments of Benjamin E. Mays:

- From 1930 to 1932, he directed a study of black churches in the nation along with the Institute of Social and Religious Research in New York City. This led to the book "The Negro's Church", published in 1932

- President of Morehouse College.
- Following his presidency at Morehouse College in Atlanta he served as president of the Atlanta School Board for 12 years
- Mays was also a Baptist minister.
- Order of Palmetto honoree.

# MAYS

*Continued from page 1*

Brown, a music professor at Morehouse College in Atlanta, spoke in an almost sermon-like pattern, applauding the Pacolet community's recent push to get Mays name back on the school.

Brown, who met Mays on a few occasions and who also sang at his funeral, showed the sad expression on Mays' face once he found out in 1983 the school name would be changed.

He said that although Sunday's event was a great step in getting Mays name back on the building, it should be taken as just a first step in returning it to its original name.

Supporters of the school's renaming said they pushed to get the name back on the building because of Mays' importance and the legacy he left behind.

The Epworth native grew up a son of ex-slaves who could not read. He attended high school, college and he received a doctoral degree in 1935.

He served as an English instructor at South Carolina State College; executive secretary of the Tampa, Fla., Urban League and is best-known for being one of the influ-



Brown

ences of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

He also had six academic buildings and a street in Atlanta named in his honor.

Pacoler Mills was the first place in the nation which honored Mays by naming its school after him.

Mays has also received the Order of the Palmetto, the highest citizen honor in the state.

He is a member of the state's Hall of Fame.

Mays died March 28, 1984, but Brown told the crowd "although the building's name has changed over the years his spirit has never left it halls."

Benny Lee Smith can be reached at [benny.smit@shj.com](mailto:benny.smit@shj.com) or 582-4511, Ext. 7216.



*Benny Lee Smith*

## *Mr. Edward West Brown*



*The late Mr. Edward West Brown was born on July 3, 1917 in Chester, SC. He was the son of the late Earnest and Annie Brown and husband of Mrs. Jessie Mae Brown. To this union was born one daughter, Audrey Grant; three grandchildren: Patrice, Veronica and Trevor, and one great-grandson, Scott, III.*

*Mr. Brown attended the public Schools of Chester County. In the pursuit of post-secondary education, he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Social Studies and Physical Education from Benedict College, Columbia, SC and a Masters at North Carolina Central State University, Durham, NC. Credits for other studies were received at South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC..*

*Mr. Brown was Principal at Ralph J. Bunche Elementary School,, Cowpens, SC and transferred to Benjamin E. Mays Consolidated School, Pacolet Mills, SC in 1953. After leaving Mays he was principal at Green Pond High in NC for three years, head coach at Finley, and Assist. Principal at Lewisville High School in Richburg upon his retirement in 1985.*

*Mr. Brown was the first principal of Benjamin E. Mays and served in that capacity until 1963. He implemented and managed an efficient, as well as very effective, educational program. Therefore, the school graduated competitive students who faired well in post secondary schools and also in the work environment. Mr. Brown was very effective in utilizing his education, special communication and intepersonal skills in relating to and addressing the over-all individual needs of the students. He was held in very high regard and even served as a father figure for some.*

*The best interest of his students, faculty and the parents were always of utmost importance and at the forefront of his administration. He established a rapport with them on every level and could even address the parents by their first name. In working closely with the parents, in conjunction with the faculty and students, Mr. Brown served as an inspiration to all. He was an outstanding Principal, Basketball Coach and Mentor.*

*He was also a member of Pleasant View United Methodist Church; Superintendent of the Sunday School, Secretary of Pleasant View Building Fund, President of Methodist Men, an annual delegate to the SC Methodist Conference, Life Member of the SC Education Association, member of the Athletic Association of SC, Life Member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, member of Fraternal Order of the Masons, and served in the United States Army from 1942 to 1946 with the Amphibian Outfit in the Pacific.*

*The Benjamin E. Mays Reunion Committee published a combined yearbook in celebration of the Benjamin E. Mays School Reunion in 1993. The yearbook was comprised of the school years 1953-54 - 1969-70 and dedicated it in memory of Mr. Brown.*

*The Benjamin E. Mays Renaming Committee, with heartfelt gratitude and utmost regard, elected posthumously , Mr. Edward West Brown as one of the educators to be honored at the Middle School of Pacolet (Original Benjamin E. Mays) Dedication Service on November 14, 1999.*

## *Mrs. Alberta Ruff Daniel*



*The late Mrs. Alberta Ruff Daniel was born in Newberry County and the oldest of 11 children. She moved at an early age to Union, South Carolina with her parents Seldon R. and Sarah Eigner Ruff and was the wife of the late Rev. J.S. Daniel.*

*She attended the public schools of Union and received a B.A. Degree in Education from Benedict College. Further studies at South Carolina State College, Livingstone College, and Winston-Salem Teachers' College served to enhance the quality of her service to humanity.*

*For 37 years (as of 1964) she taught in the public schools of both North and South Carolina where she continuously devoted herself to the education of youth. Her constant effort was to have each student develop to his fullest potential. Her teaching career began initially in Woodruff, South Carolina where she taught for one year after graduating from Benedict. It continued in Kelton and Union, South Carolina of Union County until she was married and moved to North Carolina with her husband.*

*For 22 years she worked in the church as a minister's wife, first in East Spencer, North Carolina and later in Spartanburg, South Carolina at Majority Baptist Church. In her role as a pastor's wife, she organized both youth and adults in serving as pianist, choir director, Sunday School teacher, and Missionary. She was also instrumental in helping to raise funds to pay off the great debt that they found at Majority. Shortly after the burning of the mortgage, she began teaching private piano lessons. Later she returned to the classroom and began teaching at Maysville School in Pacolet Mills, South Carolina. When it closed, she was transferred to Benjamin E. Mays Consolidated School in Pacolet Mills where she taught and served as Assistant Principal of grades one through six. During these years she received numerous honors and awards.*

*After the death of her husband, she moved back to Union and continued teaching at Benjamin E. Mays until she retired in 1964. In addition, she rendered service to the Corinth Baptist Church of Union, South Carolina as Director of the Junior Choir, Sunday School Teacher, Pianist for the Missionary Circle #3, and member of the General Missionary. Other community activities included Pianist for the Minister' Wives'*

*Alliance of Union County, member of the State Minister' Wives' Alliance member of the South Carolina Educational Association, Member of the National Teachers' Association, and President of the Union County Retired Teachers' Association. For 41 years she taught music to people of all ages.*

*Mrs. Daniel taught piano lessons to an average of 50 students a school year after retirement from teaching in the public schools. She taught piano lessons until the night before she died on October 4, 1978.*

*These are truly evident of her services to mankind. Throughout her career of service and devotion, she worked quietly and unselfishly. Truly, Mrs. Daniel carved her name on the hearts of many who love and will always remember her.*

*For the gifts of herself and possessions, the Benjamin E. Mays Renaming Committee, with warmest affection and sincere appreciation, elected posthumously, Mrs. Alberta Ruff Daniel as one of the educators to be honored at the Middle School of Pacolet (Original Benjamin E. Mays) Dedication Service on November 14, 1999.*



*Mr. Monson Owens, Jr.*

*Mr. Monson Owens, Jr., was born in Mullins, SC (Marion County) and is the youngest of six children born to Monson Owens, Sr. and Alice Ford Owens. He was married to the late Annette Farr.*

*Mr. Owens attended the public schools in Mullins and graduated in 1950. In pursuing post-secondary education, he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Allen University, Columbia, South Carolina and a Masters from Converse College, Spartanburg, South Carolina. Mr. Owens served with the 82nd Airborne Division of the United States Air Force from 1951-1953 as a Paratrooper and Clerk-Typist.*

*He spent his entire education career in District Three Schools (1957-1986) and is a resident of the district. Mr. Owens was the first and only typing instructor at Mays, and when it closed, transferred to Pacolet High School. He later taught at Broome High School and retired there in 1986. He is a Life member of the South Carolina Education Association (Retired), and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Mr. Owens is especially active in the fraternity's Greenville-Spartanburg Alumni Chapter, working with male students here and in Greenville, Pickens and Oconee counties who want to achieve worthy goals in their communities and in life through education.*

*He is known as a good neighbor and friend in the Marysville community. Mr. Owens often helps senior citizens by providing transportation to the doctor, drugstore, grocery store or hospital, or by performing other chores of repairs. Mr. Owens also provides tutoring services as well as words of advice for young people.*

*It was with sincere honor and pleasure that the Benjamin E. Mays Renaming Committee chose Mr. Monson Owens as one of the B.E. Mays educators to pay tribute to at the Middle School of Pacolet (Original Benjamin E., Mays) Dedication Service on November 14, 1999.*



# Miss B. E. Mays



## Ashley Merea Hemphill

As the currently reigning Miss B.E. Mays, Miss Ashley Merea Hemphill, the daughter of Ms. Sylvia Hemphill and Mr. Terry Hoey is a resident of the Marysville community of Pacolet. She is also a member of Montgomery Chapel Baptist Church and a 2001 graduate of Broome High School. In February of 2003, Ashley graduated from Gupton-Jones College of Funeral in Decatur, GA and is an employee of J.W. Woodward Funeral Home. She considers the title of Miss B.E. Mays quite an honor and looks forward to participating in the B.E. Mays 2003 Labor Day weekend 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Additionally and in regard to the Miss B.E. Mays Pageant Mr. Boyd Shands served as Ashley's escort. Other contestants and escorts included:

- Miss Quiannta Johnson, the granddaughter of the late Mr. Lester Johnson, escorted by Mr. Melvin Crosby;
- Miss Evita Gory, second runner-up, daughter of Ms. Ann Hardy Gory, escorted by Mr. Jarrad Shippy;
- Miss Latrice Blakely, daughter of Rev. & Mrs. (Wanda) Clyde Blakely, escorted by Mr. Chavis Smith;
- Miss LaPorsha Farr, daughter of Ms. Lisa F. Tracy and Mr. Robert Hill, escorted by Mr. Lerone Wilder;
- Miss Ivory Porter, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. (Percilla) Lawrence Porter, escorted by Mr. Tyler Mings;
- Miss Ashley Lewis, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Gary Lewis, escorted by Kyle Browning;
- Miss Shamika Shelton, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Michael (Maxine) Shelton, escorted by Mr. Tyrone Dawkins;
- and
- Miss Asheley Shelton, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Michael (Maxine) Shelton, escorted by Mr. Willie Martin.

Pageant winner Miss Ashley Hemphill was sponsored by Ms. Coy Smith Mobley. First Runner-up, Quiannta Johnson was sponsored by her grandfather, the late Mr. Lester Johnson, while second runner-up, Evita Gory was sponsored by the late Ms. Pansy Hardy Byrd and Ms. Betty Wannamaker Lokujii.



*Benjamin E. Mays  
Consolidated School  
50th Anniversary Celebration*

*1953 - 2003*



*Theme:  
Commemorating the Past; Celebrating the  
Present; Embracing the Future and  
Preserving the Legacy"*



*August 29 -31, 2003*

*"We Make Our Living By What We Get.  
We Make Our Life By What We Give."*

*Our 50<sup>th</sup> Year Souvenir Booklet was dedicated to  
the memories of the following B. E. Mays  
Alumni's because of their love to their  
community and the concern they had for the  
fellowman.*

*Eddie Dean Oglesby  
Class of 1958*

*Lester Johnson, Sr.  
Class of 1958*

*Clifford Bernard Smith, Jr.  
Class of 1960*

*One generation will commend your works to  
another; they will tell of your mighty acts.  
Psalm 145:4*



*Mr. Eddie Dean Oglesby*

The Benjamin E. Mays Reunion Committee proudly dedicates this golden Anniversary Celebration Book to the memory of Mr. Eddie Dean Oglesby who was a great supporter, outstanding graduate and honorable member of this great organization.

The choices that Mr. Oglesby made were well thought out and exhibited concern for his fellowman. He served diligently in his church and community. As a member of the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church in Cowpens, he was an active member serving as Church Secretary and a member of the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Oglesby's tenure at Benjamin E. Mays did not go unnoticed. He excelled academically in various extra-curricula activities. After graduation he matriculated at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. Later he attended Spartanburg Technical College. He was always improving himself through education.

He served God and his country by joining the United States Air Force.

In his community he volunteered as a fireman for the Cowpens Fire Department, worked with the Blood Bank in Cowpens and Spartanburg School District Three. He was always willing to donate his blood to help the lives of others. His giving of himself earned him a special certificate for his numerous donations.

Mr. Oglesby was a Shriner's Shriner. He went far and beyond the call of duty in this organization. He rose to power by becoming Deputy in the Order of the Eastern Star, Commander in Chief of the J.E. Dickerson Consistory and Senior Warden-Grand Lodge of South Carolina. It would be remiss on our part to overlook the contributions of this dedicated, outspoken, yet mild mannered man. We deem it an honor just to have known him.

Mr. Oglesby was a devoted family man. He was united in Holy Matrimony to Ms. Thelma Drysock and to this union two children were born: Coretta D. Oglesby and Eddie R. Oglesby. He was later blessed with four grandchildren. Mr. Oglesby was a God fearing man and gave his all to see that his family was well cared for.

Mr. Oglesby would always strive to be the best that he could be. He always went the extra mile to see that things were done decently and in order. We thank God for permitting us to have one of his caliber in our midst. It is with sincere appreciation and gratitude that we dedicate this Golden Anniversary Celebration Souvenir Book to his memory.



*Clifford Bernard Smith*  
"Buck"

The Benjamin E. Mays Reunion Committee proudly dedicates this Golden Anniversary Celebration Book to the memory of Mr. Clifford Bernard Smith who was a great contributor to Mays High and the Reunion Committee.

Mr. Smith had a great mind and free spirit. He simply refused to accept the ordinary. He refused to believe that his life had to be dictated by anyone other than himself. He was unafraid to take on any challenge. It mattered not if the battle was one on one or if it were "Buck" taking on local, state or Federal Government. He firmly believed that all mankind deserved to be treated with dignity and respect.

At Benjamin "Buck" was known as a brilliant young man with great potential. After his graduation, he attended South Carolina State College in Orangeburg, South Carolina and graduated with a degree in Business. He became the first Black Field Agent for the Internal Revenue Service for the state of South Carolina. His compassion for others lead him to accept a job with Piedmont Community Action. Some of you may or may not know how he almost single handedly and successfully made changes in the way the county of Spartanburg handled Federal monies.

He was very active in several organizations. Among his most loved was the NAACP.

Mr. Smith was one of the first to serve with Mr. Lester Johnson and Mr. Eddie Dean Oglesby to form the Reunion Committee. Even though his health was failing, he also continued his dedication to B.E. Mays by working on the Renaming Committee. One of his proudest moments was when he gave the word to drop the tarp that unveiled, "Original Benjamin E. Mays School."

It is with sincere appreciation and gratitude that we dedicate this Golden Anniversary Souvenir Book to his memory.



*Lester Johnson, Sr.*

The Benjamin E. Mays Reunion Committee proudly dedicates this Golden Anniversary Celebration Book to the memory of Mr. Lester Johnson who was an achiever of many accolades in his lifetime. He set his goals while attending B.E. Mays and with determination, hard work, faith and unyielding to obstacles achieved success.

Upon graduating from Benjamin E. Mays he realized that "A little learning was a dangerous thing," therefore he increased his wisdom and knowledge by doing further study at Claffin University in Orangeburg, South Carolina. Mr. Johnson always had a way with words and to improve his eloquence in speech, he graduated from Claffin with a B.A. Degree in English and became fluent in his writing and self expression. During his matriculation at Claffin he was very active in several extra-curricular activities. To name a few, The Yearbook Staff, Claffin University Choir and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Mr. Johnson was an active member of his church and community. He attended Pleasant View United Methodist Church in Cowpens and served as a Lay Leader and a Board Member. In his community he served as President of the NAACP, Spartanburg Chapter. He was the first to organize the Reunion Committee and served as first Chairperson. He was also very active with the Renaming Committee. Even though his health was failing, he never gave up. He continued to work toward our goal of having the Name "Original Benjamin E. Mays School" restored to the building.

Mr. Johnson touched the hearts of many students and filled their minds with the hunger for education as he taught them at the Shelby Jr. High School in Shelby, North Carolina.

Lester was a business man in every sense of the word. A few of his favorite sayings were:

- "Don't take this personally, this is about business."
- "I'm sure that we can all work together to make this happen."
- "To receive respect, you should always show respect."

Mr. Johnson was married to Elna Sue Garrison and to this union two children were born, Monica Johnson Durvis and Lester Andre Johnson, Jr. He was also blessed with three grandchildren.

It is with sincere appreciation and gratitude that we dedicate this Golden Anniversary Souvenir Book to his memory.

## 2003 Officers of the Reunion Committee

|                             |                                      |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Chairperson .....           | Ms. Elaine Williams Brackett         |
| Assistant Chairperson ..... | Mr. Don C. Wade                      |
| Secretary .....             | Ms. Boncile Dover Whittenburg        |
| Assistant Secretary .....   | Mrs. Thelma Prysock Oglesby          |
| Treasurer .....             | Ms. Margean Prysock                  |
| Assistant Treasurer .....   | Mrs. Nancy Dawkins Dawkins           |
| Chaplain .....              | Evangelist Elizabeth (Jan) Hill Farr |
| Assistant Chaplain .....    | Mr. Charlie McBeth                   |

### Sub Committee Chairpersons

|                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Planning Sub Committee .....       | Mr. Willie Lee Gist        |
| Fund Raising Sub Committee .....   | Ms. Levator Logan Williams |
| Communications Sub Committee ..... | Ms. Vivian Smith Teamer    |

*When there is work to be done you can always use the extra help and ideals. Below are the names of the committee members that served with the 2003 B. E. Mays School Reunion Committee and Sub Committees. They all made sure that the 2003 reunion would be a great success.*

**Planning Committee**

*Otis Sterling McCollum (64)*

*Charlie McBeth (64)*

*Floyd Black (64)*

*Pearl Smith Black (64)*

*Patricia McBeth Logan (65)*

*Tommie Hardy Goode (65)*

*Sterling Farr (74)*

**Communications**

*Bill Logan (66)*

*Boncile Dover Whittenburg (62)*

*Yvonne Smith McBride (65)*

**Fund Raising**

*Louvenia Johnson Porter (64)*

*Nancy Dawkins Dawkins (67)*

*Margean Prysock (69)*





SATURDAY, AUGUST 30. 2003

'LEGEND GAME - MEN & WOMEN'

MR. OTIS STERLING MCCOLLUM, PRESIDING

INVOCATION, MR. BILL LOGAN

SOME OF THE MAYS LEGENDS WERE IN THE HOUSE

**“GO TEAM GO”**

FLIP AND YOU WILL SEE  
THAT SOME OF MAYS  
CHEERLEADERS STILL HAVE  
THE MOVE

## *The Legend Game*

During my years at B. E. Mays High School, I always knew that the “Basketball Team” was a winning team. On Saturday, August 30, 2003 I found out why.

A few of the *Legend players* (men & women) of the famous B. E. Mays team came to show us that they still had all the right moves to play the game of basketball or at least make us think they still had all the right moves for the game 😊.

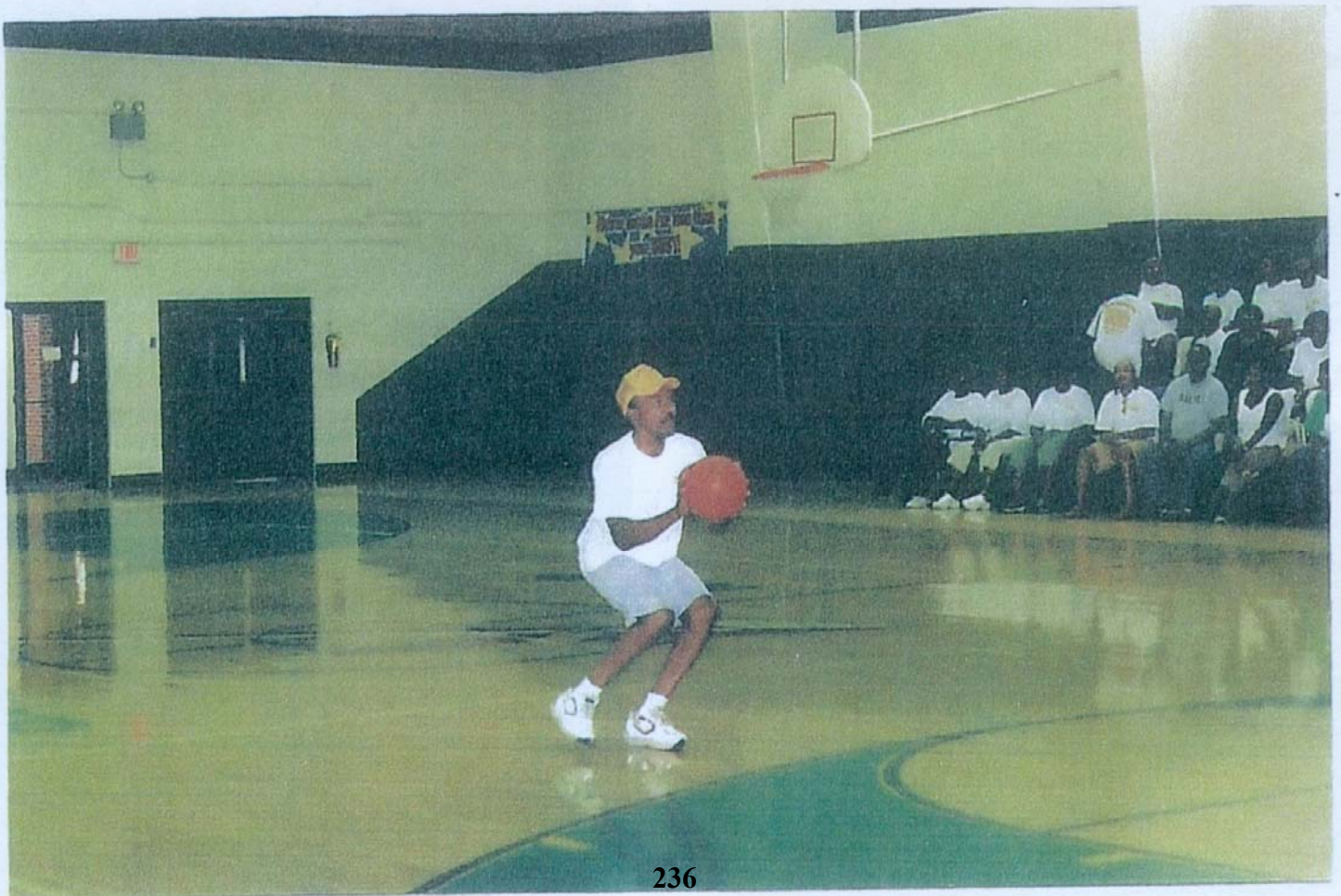
One thing for sure the cheerleader still had it going on, because all you ever needed to be a cheerleader is school spirit and a big loud voice. Check out the next few pages and you will see what I mean.

# “GO Team GO”



“THE MAYS LEGENDS ARE IN THE HOUSE”.





# B. E. Mays Reunion 2003



*Saturday, August 30, 2003*

***“Banquet and Dance”***

*Converse College – Gee Dining Hall*

*580 East Main Street*

*Spartanburg, South Carolina*

*Dinner – 6:30*

*Program – 8:00 – 9:00*

*Dance 9:00 – Until*

*Ms. Elaine Williams Brackett, Presiding*

*Greeters ..... Ms. Levator Logan Williams  
Ms. Louvenia Johnson Porter*

*Invocation ..... Mr. Charlie McBeth*

*Welcome ..... Ms. Boncile Dover Whittenburg*

*Dinner & Legends Game Highlights ..... Mr. Otis Sterling McCollum*

*School History ..... Miss Gloria A. Smith*

*Dedication of Souvenir Booklet ..... Mr. Sterling Farr*

*Recognition of Faculty & Staff ..... Mrs. Vivian Smith Teamer*

*Introduction of Speaker ..... Mr. John William Smith*

*Keynote Speaker ..... Mr. Roger Lee Smith*

*Remarks ..... Ms. Elaine Williams Brackett*

*Dance*

*The Big Fun Moments ..... Door Prizes... ..... Guess Who We Are*



Girls remembering some of the good times at Mays



SMILE  
We're looking  
GOOD



*Sunday, August 31, 2003*

## **“Worship Service”**

*Middle School of Pacolet – AKA Original Benjamin E. Mays Consolidated School  
Pacolet Mills, SC  
10:45am – 12:45pm*

### **Order of Worship**

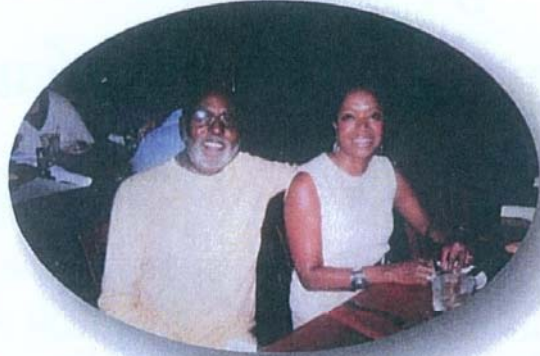
*Rev. Laverne Smith Brown, Presiding*

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <i>Call to Worship .....</i>              | <i>Rev. Laverne Smith Brown</i>                      |
| <i>Hymn .....</i>                         | <i>”Lift Every Voice and Sing”</i>                   |
| <i>Scripture .....</i>                    | <i>Evangelist Elizabeth (Jan) Farr</i>               |
| <i>Prayer .....</i>                       | <i>Mr. Floyd Black</i>                               |
| <i>Chant .....</i>                        | <i>”Hear Our Prayer”</i>                             |
| <i>Lighting of Memorial Candles .....</i> | <i>Mrs. Patricia McBeth Logan<br/>Mr. Bill Logan</i> |
| <i>Scholarship Program .....</i>          | <i>Mr. Don C. Wade</i>                               |
| <i>Scholarship Offering .....</i>         | <i>Reunion Committee</i>                             |
| <i>Introduction of Speaker .....</i>      | <i>Mr. Gary Lewis</i>                                |
| <i>Selection .....</i>                    | <i>Choir</i>   |
| <i>The Spoken Word .....</i>              | <i>Rev. Brenda West Miller</i>                       |
| <i>Invitational Hymn .....</i>            | <i>”Come to Jesus”</i>                               |
| <i>Announcements .....</i>                | <i>Mrs. Thelma Prysock Oglesby</i>                   |
| <i>Remarks .....</i>                      | <i>Ms. Elaine Williams Brackett</i>                  |
| <i>Closing Selection .....</i>            | <i>The B.E. Mays Alma Mater</i>                      |
| <i>Benediction .....</i>                  | <i>Rev. Brenda West Miller</i>                       |

### **Scholarship Recipient**

*Jermaine Franklin Greene  
Son of John Franklin & Willie Greene*

# Class of 1964 Class Reunion



*Well..... you are at the end of our journey through "The Reunion Section". I hope that you enjoyed the journey back through the memories of the past, because it was my pleasure to bring the memories back to you. I hope that you all enjoyed the week-end and remember we are "Panthers Forever". It is my prayer that you will have safe travel back to your homes and remember the good ole days at B. E. Mays.*

*Because of His Care,*

*Gloria A. Smith*

*Would have been, should have been Class of 71*





## *The Special Gift*

It can only come from above, spreading wings like Mother Hens give love. If your heart is right you will see a beautiful light. The poor, the rich, they both have it, but only a few will ever understand it. Some take it for granted, some cherish it, only a few ever find it. For those who abuse others with it, will only find out in the end the price they will have to pay long began. For some it's so powerful that confusion comes from it, without understanding they seek various ways to destroy it.

Those who really understand it can only love it. They pray for those who abuse it and cry for those who never got a chance to use it. For those who waited too late to enjoy the beauty of it will one day weep for never stopping to realize it. Bless those who take medication to prolong it, for they too understand it. For those who cannot see, seasons of the year is when they really hear. It's so simple to understand that Birds sing about it, even Bees nourish from it. Say what you want, do as you like, if your heart isn't right you will never see the light. If your Soul is pure and you are very sure, enduring pain is only part of the cure. The path of Life is narrow, how we appreciate this gift determines our SOUL Value.

*-Bill Logan, Jr.*

As Published by:  
The National Library of Poetry

# The Benjamin Elijah Mays Reunion Yearbook Committee

Levator Logan Williams - Chairperson ('64)

Gloria Smith ('70)

Boncile Dover McCollum ('62)

Bill Logan ('66)

Vivian Smith Teamer ('64)

Louvenia Johnson Porter ('64)



## Acknowledgements

With sincere thanks and heartfelt gratitude, we, the B.E. Mays Reunion Yearbook Committee graciously acknowledge each of you individually and collectively for your participation in this auspicious occasion. Without your cooperation, our dream would not have become a reality. Your willingness to share information, dedicate your time and your donations have brought our aspirations into fruition. We sincerely thank Mr. Charles "Thicky" Dawkins for his entertainment, Ms. Cynthia Williams for her superb cuisine and Spartanburg School District 3 for their marvelous support in helping to make this book possible. A very special thanks is extended to K&S Sanitation Service, Inc. for the outstanding contributions toward the success of this keepsake. To all of the participants in this, the "Final" episode in the Legend of the Benjamin E. Mays Consolidated School, words are inadequate to express our innermost appreciation. So from the bottom of our hearts and in the choicest of diction that we know, we simply say, "Thank You!"

Levator Logan Williams - Chairperson - Class of '64

# "Panthers Forever"

## ***PATRONS LIST***

***Willie Mae Fernanders Carter***

**Sons**

***Curtis L. Carter, Jr***

***Barry Carter***

**Grand Children**

***Justine Nicole Carter***

***Jasmine Mariel Carter***

***Geraldine Foster***

***Ms. Peggy Mitchell Moore***

***Mr. James Fitzpatrick***

***Mrs. Doris Russell Anderson***

***Rev. & Mrs. Clyde Eison***

***Mr. & Mrs. Lamont Carpenter***

***Mr. & Mrs. Van Clemon Makupson***

***Mrs. Malissa Durrah***

***Mrs. Daisy Smith***

***Mrs. Ruth Mitchell***

***Mr. & Mrs. Willie Lee Johnson***

***Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Bell***

***Poneice Graham***

***Elisha (Lee) Byars***

***Mr. & Mrs. Donald Gibson***

**Grandchildren**

***Donum Tamil Gibson***

***Kamira D. Gibson***

***Mr. & Mrs. Richard Dean Logan***

***Mrs. Julia Mae Logan Thomas***

***Ms. Roxie Logan Washington***

***Mrs. Julia Logan***

## *Alma Mater*

*When the sun of Carolina  
Mounts the eastern sky.  
Proudly stands our Alma Mater  
Glorious to view.*

### *Chorus:*

*Maroon and gold  
Speed it onward.  
Loud her praises tell.  
Hail to thee our Alma Mater  
Hail all hail Mays High.*

*High school days are swiftly fleeting  
Soon we'll leave thy halls.  
Ne'er to join another meeting  
Neath thy hallowed walls.*

*When the shades of night shall gather  
Dark the hearts may be  
Still the rays of youth and love  
Shall linger long over thee.*

# *AUTOGRAPHS*



