

Dekalb NewsSun Aug. 26, 1987
Getting Ready For School

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DeKalb New Era
March 12, 1987

Merged Gordon And Walker Schools Are Named For Black Astronaut

By SPENCER RAGSDALE

The DeKalb Board of Education has voted unanimously to name the new junior high and senior high in south DeKalb for black astronaut Ron McNair who was among the seven killed in the Challenger explosion 14 months ago.

The existing Gordon and Walker High Schools will be merged and the enrollment divided into junior and senior high schools next year. With the change to the junior high structure, the buildings will also get a new name.

Board member Phil McGregor reported Monday night that a committee from the two schools had considered a number of new names for the two buildings, but had reached a consensus that both the junior and senior highs should have the same name, and that the name be Ronald E. McNair Senior High and Ronald E. McNair Junior High.

Student advisor to the board Chance McColl told the board that there was no objection to naming a school for Ronald McNair, but there are a number of people who disagree with obliterating the name of General Walker, "an important figure in DeKalb history."

Major General W.H.T. Walker was commanding cavalry in the defense of Atlanta when he was shot in the back by a federal sniper on July 22, 1864 and died on the spot that is near the intersection of Glenwood Ave. and Wilkinson Dr. in DeKalb County.

Board member Donna Wagner said the change would, "not completely obliterate the past and history," that a plaque would be placed in each school indicating the previous name.

Mr. McGregor said that he had received only one call objecting to removing the name Walker and, "the committee represents the broader community..."

In related action the board accepted the bid of Stanbury Uniforms Inc. of \$28,481.70 to pur-

chase 180 band uniforms and two drum major uniforms for the senior high school in the Gordon-Walker area.

Board Chairman Norma Bergman ask that the board consider a policy on how the names of schools will be chosen and if both the junior and senior highs in the same area will have the same name. She said a decision must be reached in the next few months on a name for the merged Dunwoody and Peachtree High Schools.

In other action the board approved a calendar for the coming year. Calendar 'A' proposed by the staff was amended to provide an additional teacher preparation day on March 11 by eliminating the May 30 Memorial Day holiday. Johnese Threadcraft, the president of ODE, said she was very pleased "the board was responsive to the needs of the teachers."

The board approved new gym bleachers for Avondale, Chamblee and Towers high schools. The low bid of Georgia School Equipment of \$134,200 was accepted by the board for the removal of the old bleachers and installation of the new equipment.

Sagamore Elementary School will get a new roof following board action to accept the low bid of Fulton Roofing Co. in the amount of \$138,720 for the work.

Jerry L. Johnson and Associates was the winning bidder in the amount of \$123,749 for computer room modifications at the central office.

The school system will proceed with its plan to issue photo ID cards to students and staff and accepted the bid of Microscope Service and Repair Inc. for \$71,523 for 27 cameras and related equipment as well as film and laminate to produce 1,500 student and staff IDs per unit.

New equipment was authorized for the school system's printing plant. Low bids accepted were: Diddie Graphic Systems Corp. for \$192,056 for a web press; Itek Graphics for \$9,790 for a camera system; Heidelberg Eastern for \$88,000 for a collator.

Avondale High will get 160 band uniforms with the acceptance by the board of the bid of Stanbury Uniforms Inc. for \$25,800.

Associate Superintendent Wilburn Adams reported to the board that the sale of the former Skyland School has been completed. The building was sold for \$650,000 and five acres of land at the school was sold for \$945,463. The board retains eight acres of the former elementary school site. The purchaser was the state of Georgia, Department of Human Resources.

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Lakeside, Watson Tops In DeKalb C.C. Meet

It was Lakeside and Walker's Ricky Watson who took first place honors at the DeKalb County Cross Country Meet at the Atlanta Waterworks Saturday.

The Lakeside varsity collected 50 points (low score wins), while Watson, the state's premier distance runner last year as a junior, defended his county title with a time of 11:18 over the 2.25 mile course.

Behind Lakeside for the team crown came Ben Kennedy's Druid Hills team, which enjoyed a perfect regular season schedule. Druid Hills had 72 points.

The other three top varsities were Henderson (97), Walker (157) and Chamblee (197).

Among the younger programs, Lakeside won the B-team title with 88 points while Sequoyah's 8th grade won the competition in that group with 27 points.

Top individual performance turned in by a B-team runner came from Chamblee's Jed Delong, who ran a 12:43. Larry Reagin of Henderson was top 8th grade runner, covering his allotted distance in 6:10.

Rounding out the top five varsity finishers were

VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY DEKALB COUNTY RESULTS

(Top 25 over the 2.25 Atl. Waterworks Course)

PLACE	NAME	SCHOOL	TIME
1.	Ricky Watson	Walker	11:18
2.	Tony Dipaola	Lakeside	11:34
3.	Jerry Vincoli	Columbia	11:39
4.	Mark Meagher	Henderson	11:48
5.	Jon Ward	Druid Hills	11:52
6.	Jim Webster	Lakeside	11:53
7.	Mike Roberts	Walker	11:59
8.	Chuck Roberts	Lithonia	12:00
9.	Robbie Burns	Lakeside	12:02
10.	Mike Hooker	Columbia	12:05
11.	Gus Jordon	Druid Hills	12:05
12.	David Rogers	Lithonia	12:09
13.	Mark Thompson	Lakeside	12:15
14.	Ken Timerman	Henderson	12:19
15.	Peter Jones	Henderson	12:19
16.	David Crowfoot	Druid Hills	12:22
17.	Harold McNeese	Cross Keys	12:23
18.	Charles David	Druid Hills	12:23
19.	Paul Pascutti	Henderson	12:24
20.	Paul Doverspike	Lakeside	12:25
21.	Steve Krueger	Peahtree	12:26
22.	Mike Conway	S.W.DeKalb	12:28
23.	Jay Goree	Druid Hills	12:30
24.	Joe Reed	Lakeside	12:30
25.	Colin Smith	Tucker	12:30

Lakeside's Tony Dipaola (11:34), Columbia's Jerry Vincoli (11:39), Henderson's Mark Meagher (11:48) and Druid Hills' Jon Ward (11:52).

Completing the top five B-teams were Sequoyah

(95), newcomer Dunwoody (131), Henderson (142) and Chamblee (188).

The other four 8th grade teams making up the top five were Henderson (64), Gordon (158), Avondale (159) and Chamblee (162).



Around DeKalb

Walker High School Principal Cecil Johnston swore out a warrant this week against James M. Smith of a Candler Road address. Smith, who is the owner of a car which Johnston claims tried to run him down in the school parking lot, is charged with trespassing and assault.

Walker High Civitans Raise \$2,500 For Retarded Assn.

The Walker High School Junior Civitan Club has raised a record \$2500 for the National Association for Retarded Children.

According to Paul Rohrbough, youth director for Civitan International for Georgia District North, this is the largest amount to be raised by any junior or senior club in the United States.

The \$2500 check will be presented November 18 at the Georgia District North's

council meeting to be held at Woodward Academy. Fifty-four junior and senior clubs of the district will take part.

The money was raised during the Halloween season when the group held "The House of the Living Dead." Car washes and doughnut sales were held earlier to raise expenses.

The Club had set a goal of \$1000 for their Halloween enterprise. Bob Buchler, sponsor, attributed their

going so far over the goal to "real determined effort on the part of the club."

The Junior Civitan Club now numbers 100 members, making it the largest junior club in the United States. It had 30-40 members when Mr. Buchler came to Walker and became sponsor 4 years ago. The club's safety program last year was judged best in the state.

Linda Harwell is president of the group and Chip Hunt is project chairman and vice president. Gail Sweatt is secretary and Kathy Hughes, treasurer. Ricky Watson and Steve Aultman are sergeant-at-arms. Linda is also a deputy governor in Georgia District North and Steve is Sergeant-at-arms.

10 Walker Students Placed On Probation for Brawling

By GREGORY JAYNES

Ten Walker High School students were placed on probation for a year Thursday after a hearing on charges growing out of a brawl on the campus Sept. 14.

The students, most of whom were charged with affray (fighting) and refusal to disperse also received a stiff lecture from State Court Judge J. Oscar Mitchell.

"If you go back and get into trouble," said Mitchell, "I assure you the state will vigorously prosecute this case. If you violate my trust and you get brought back up here, I will assure you, you will know you have been to court."

Mitchell said he was placing the students on "voluntary probation. At the end of 12 months, if your conduct has been good, the cases will be dismissed and you will have no criminal record."

Two of the ten, Gregory Jackson and Ronald Mitchell, also were charged with assault. Mitchell ordered the two 17-year-olds to appear in his court next Thursday for a preliminary hearing on the assault charges after he was told the two allegedly used belt buckles in the fight.

"There is a lot of difference in having an old-fashioned fist fight and using a knife or a belt or some lethal weapon," said Mitchell. "I'll have to

deal more severely in those cases where weapons were used."

The fight occurred after several days of ill feelings between black students and white students at the DeKalb County high school.

Reportedly, two smaller fights paved the way for the brawl involving 30 students. The county juvenile court is handling cases involving 20 of the students.

Appearing in court Thursday along with Jackson and Mitchell, were Stephen Carroll, Gerald Fowler, Bart Johnson, Ronald Johnson, Gregory Lucas, Michael Elliott, Walter Foster and Jerry Lankford. All are 17.