

A&T professor granted tenure

From Page A1

July 25 alleging race and age discrimination and seeking back wages, \$500,000 in damages and his job back.

Until Clark filed the suit, the board of trustees could not discuss the matter because Fort had not recommended the matter to the board for their decision.

But the Clark case was only one criticism the alumni has with Fort. They also criticized his inability to handle faculty job issues like the Clark case, in addition, to his resistance to trustee and student involvement and his concept of A&T's mission as a black land grant institution. At

one point, the alumni association had called for Fort's resignation.

Fort said after the meeting on Wednesday, that he was not aware that he was having any problems and that he had the full support of the board of trustees to run the institution.

"There's no dispute relating to personnel matters," Fort said. "I have the confidence of the board absolutely."

It was reported that the board did not discuss the Fort matter during the closed meeting, but the board decided to schedule a weekend retreat to discuss the present mission of the university

and to discuss possible changes in that mission.

"We need to come up with an understanding of the real mission of A&T," said McArthur Newell, chairman of the board of trustees. "We need to know what this institution is all about. Gradually the mission changes with time. And we need to make sure the mission is representative of this university."

As a land grant institution, A&T's mission is to nurture culturally deprived students who need to develop their potential. That was one of the main reasons Clark should be granted tenure, said the Rev. Jesse Jackson,

member of the board of trustees. At a board meeting in April, Jackson said, Clark represents hope to many of the students as to what they can aspire to become and that removing him would be contrary to what the university stands for.

James France, president of the A&T student body and a new member of the board of trustees, said he thinks that settling the Clark issue will help the students regain confidence in Fort.

"Everyone will be jubilant," France said. "Dr. Clark was one that tore the campus apart, but I'm sure that we as an A&T family can come together."

WSSU

From Page A1

dian institution," he says, "and our heritage is lost. My concern was that an Indian would have protected our heritage more than a non-Indian person."

Friday says the Pembroke board of trustees decided to select a candidate from outside the institution because he was the best-qualified. "I depended on the guidance of the board," he says.

One of the Indian candidates filed a discrimination complaint against the institution, but it was dropped for lack of evidence.

As for Winston-Salem State, Friday says he can't predict whether a black chancellor will be selected, or if the institution might employ the first white chancellor in its history.

"I will be guided heavily by the attitude of the board of trustees," Friday says. "The candidate must be able to work with the board."

Meanwhile, a WSSU administrator, Dr. Haywood Wilson, has been selected as the

interim replacement for Covington.

Friday says a search committee, composed of faculty, students, alumni and trustees, will be formed soon to search for a permanent replacement. The committee will interview candidates and make recommendations to Friday, who probably will make a permanent selection by next spring.

The permanent selection process is just beginning, says Mrs. Smith of the board of trustees, and no one can predict its outcome.

"It is too early to judge what could happen," she says. "I would think, however, that the board of trustees would select a strong Negro candidate who has leadership ability."

"I'm sure this is what we want," she says. "I'm reasonably sure that we are looking for a strong Negro leader, since the university has been under Negro leadership for so many years."



Double Dutch

Walkertown Recreation Center jumped away with this year's singles and doubles titles in the city-wide Girl Scouts Double Dutch contest held recently at Hanes Hosiery Recreation Center. Singles champs, Michelle and Cassandra Brown turn for teammate Margo Scales (photo by James Parker).

Task Force's conference stresses family unity

From Page A1

ference is to develop a network and background information on the black family," said Marcella Oglesby, chairperson of the conference.

The five-hour conference featured several speakers, workshops, and other activities. Workshops included an "Historical View Of the Black Family," "Teaching Values," and "Self Concept and School Performance."

Mayor Wayne Corpening presented a proclamation to the conference, recognizing Saturday Aug. 11 as Black Family Day in Winston-Salem.

Delivering the keynote address, Dr. Lawrence Gray, professor at Howard University, spoke on "The Strengths of the Black Family."

"Our families are in trouble, but we can survive," Gray told the audience. "Families are essential to the survival of any group."

"Slavery is what divided our families," he said. "Our children are a product of a slave system and we can't ignore that. It is still a factor in how we interact with each other."

Gray outlined the factors that are essential to the development of a strong family.

The strong family should have trust, communication, support, respect, and interaction, Gray said. Most importantly, he added, the family must have a spiritual foundation in order to survive.

"We must redefine our concept of the family from the traditional nuclear family," Gray explained. "Our new definition must include persons who relate to each other through commitment and interaction."

"We must not let the society take over the task which traditionally belonged to the family," he said. "And, we must continue the tradition of the extended family, where we take care of

each other."

Oglesby said the Black Family Task Force was developed in 1982 at the Glade Street YWCA to develop more programs for families. She said the task force is dedicated to researching the historical roots of the black family and providing more information about employment, housing and education.

Some of the goals of the organization, Oglesby said, are to stress the importance of the fami-

ly, identify the needs of single parents, continue the tradition of extended families and develop more resources for the community.

"One of our objectives for the year is to encourage community groups to increase the number of family resource centers, telephone and referral services," Oglesby said.

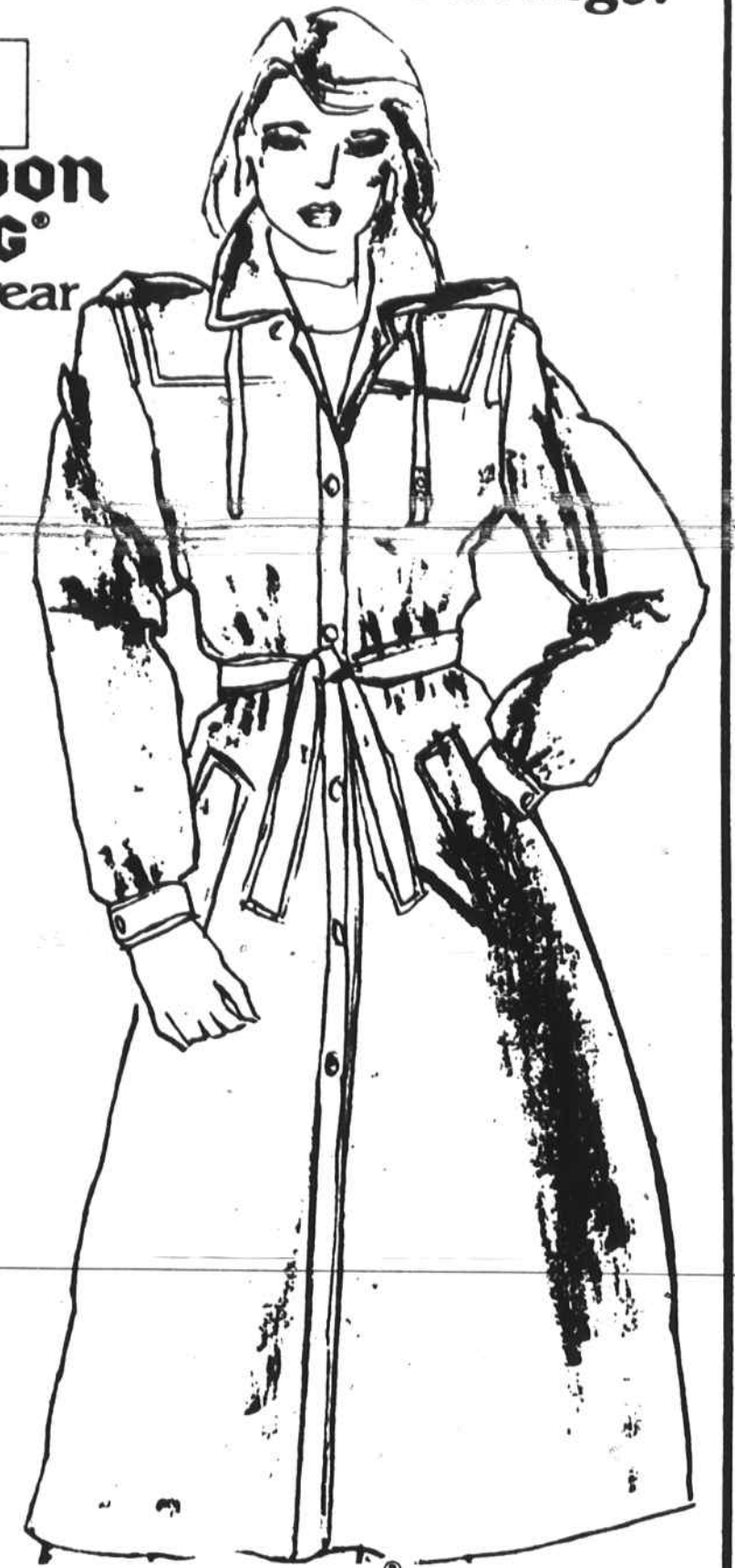
This year's conference was sponsored by several groups, including Links, Inc.; the Associa-

tion of Black Social Workers; the National Council of Negro Women; the East Winston Restoration Association; and the Noon Optimists. In addition, the Winston-Salem Alumnae of Delta Sigma Theta and the Baptist Ministers Conference helped organize the conference.

Oglesby said the group meets every second and fourth Wednesday from noon until 1:45 p.m. in the East Winston Restoration Association office on Cleveland Avenue.

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