■ Tiny Indians take four: B1

■ Churches form family care center: B9

Cosby's new show's a hit: B7

Biazing The Trail

Sandra Douglas: If her high school guidance counselors could see her now.

Profile, A7.



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34 Pages This Week

Says deacons out of line

Pastor files suit to retain church

By ROBIN ADAMS Chronicle Assistant Editor

The minister of Second New Bethel Baptist Church, convicted three times for drunken driving and facing another drunken driving charge in Guilford County, says the church's deacons are out of line and has filed suit against them to save his job.

The Rev. Emory L. Clark Jr. said in a lawsuit he filed against the six deacons in Forsyth County Superior Court that the deacons are acting contrary to Baptist church doctrine and are attempting to operate the church against the wishes of the majority of the congregation.

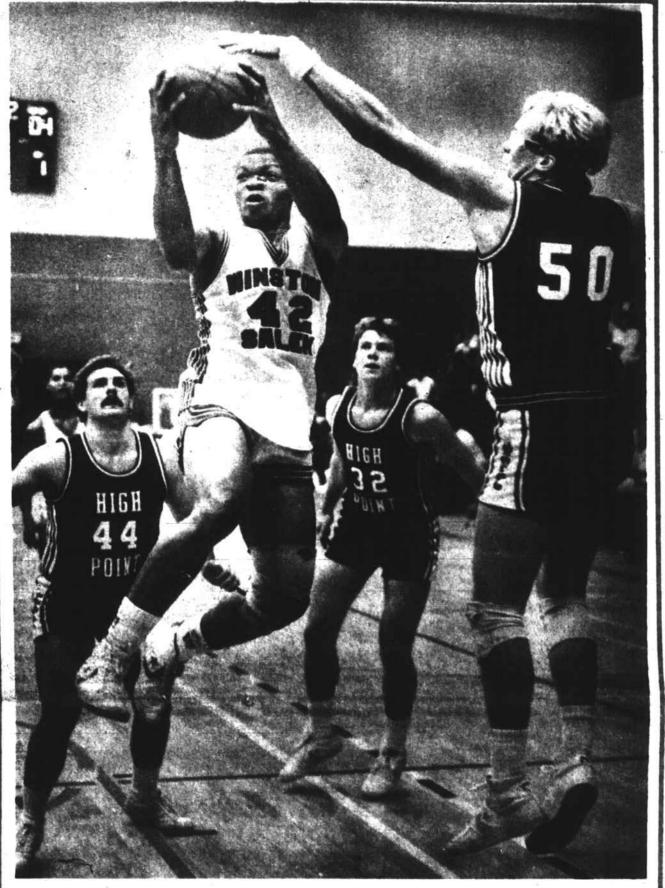
"In attempting to terminate plaintiff's (Clark's) employment as pastor of church, defendants have exceeded their authority and have usurped, and continue to usurp, the authority of the congregation of church in the conduct of church's business and religious affairs," the lawsuit states.

Since the church operates under a congregational form of government, Clark said the deacons cannot fire him, but must hold a congregational meeting and allow the church members to decide his fate. And according to an interview Clark had with the Chronicle in August, at least one such meeting already has been held. Clark said the congregation decided then in a 53-14 vote to retain him as pastor.

"The church has restored me as pastor," Clark said in the August interview. "This matter is settled and it should not be publicly displayed. Hearts will be broken, people will shed tears and people will be hurt by it."

But in a letter the deacons sent to Clark, drafted by attorney Gary W. Williard on behalf of the deacons, they said that his behavior was in contrast to that of a minister.

"It is totally unreasonable for you to expect that any church congregation can be asked to follow as their spiritual leader a man who can neither control his own life nor live within the standards set by society in general, much less the higher standards Please see page A 13



Night Move

Linwood Gorham of Winston-Salem State University power drives past a host of High Point College defenders. Gorham's 18 points led WSSU to a 60-58 overtime win. The Rams have since downed Hampton Institute for their first conference win (photo by James Parker).

Black presence lags on boards

By GREG BROWN Chronicle Staff Writer

The way Mayor Wayne Corpening sees it, Winston-Salem is a big business that has to be careful about the way it spends its money.

"We run as tight a ship and as good a government as any city in North Carolina," he says. "I don't know of any others that compare with us. The people don't want their money wasted and I agree with them."

To keep the city running efficiently, Corpening says, you have to have the best and the brightest personnel in key positions -elected positions, city staff positions and advisory positions.

As mayor, Corpening makes key decisions about whom is appointed to the city's various boards and commissions. He selects whom will serve, and although the Board of Aldermen can reject the mayor's recommended appointees, it generally accepts them.

But in the search for the most qualified candidates to serve on these commissions, some critics say blacks are being underrepresented and that those boards which do have a considerable number of black members don't really exercise much power.

And, although Winston-Salem has a black population of about 37 percent, that percentage isn't reflected on many city boards. The cfty's Insurance Advisory

Committee, for example, has six white males, one white female and one black female, giving blacks 8.3 percent of the seats.

The nine-member Tourism Development Authority has six white males, one white female and two black females, with blacks representing 22.2 percent of the board members.

And on the Winston-Salem Development Advisory Committee, with five white male members, one black female and

"I'm not just concerned with having black faces on a board if they aren't going to do something.

-- Alderman Larry Little

one black male, blacks represent 28.4 percent of the board.

What's more, the city has one commission without any black representation -- the five-member Historic District Commission with three white males and two white females.

There are some boards and commissions, however, where blacks are overrepresented, such as the Housing Task Force, which, with five black male members, four white males, two black females and one black female, has a black representation of 50 percent.

The seven-member Sports Commission, with four white Please see page A2

Most black aldermen expect challenge in '85

By ROBIN ADAMS Chronicle Assistant Editor

Amid a barrage of 1984 postelection analyses, thoughts of the 1985 Winston-Salem aldermanic elections are creeping up.

In most of the city's eight wards, who the candidates will be is still up for grabs. In the city's four wards with black aldermen, the incumbents are preparing for

some kind of opposition.

"I expect there will be people running," said North Ward Alderman Larry Little. "But I haven't heard of anybody who has put together an organization

The one area where organizations seem to be in motion is the Northeast Ward.

Please see page A2



Burke: "They have a right to

For sheriff, police

New appointments raise criticisms

By GREG BROWN Chronicle Staff Writer

Winston-Salem hired a new police chief last Wednesday and Forsyth County appointed a new sheriff Monday night, but both appointments have raised criticism from some black leaders.

Maj. Joseph E. Masten, a 37-year veteran with the city police department, was appointed city police chief last Wednesday by City Manager Bryce Stuart. The 58-year-old Masten was selected from among 60 applicants to replace former Chief Lucius Powell, who resigned Sept. 30.

Capt. E. Preston Oldham, an officer with the county sheriff's department for 17 years, was appointed by the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners to fill the unexpired term of former Sheriff Manly Lancaster -- one day after Lancaster officially submitted a letter of resignation citing ill health.

"It indicates to me that racism is as pervasive phenomenon as any, even though it may manifest itself in different ways," North Ward Alderman

Please see page A13

Space heaters: Use with caution

By IRENE PERRY Chronicle Staff Writer

With the cold weather here and much more still to come, many people are considering ways to keep that cold air out of the house and that toasty, warm air in.

One form of heating which has risen in popularity during the past few years is the space heater -also known as kerosene and electric heaters.

One reason for their popularity is the rising cost of fuel, leading consumers to seek alternative methods for heating their homes, says Roger L. Kirkpatrick, a Winston-Salem fireman.

"However, oftentimes people do not use the space heaters as supplemental to an existing heating system," says Kirkpatrick. "They are used as the main heating system in the home. This is done usually because of carelessness and lack of knowledge on the part of the user.

"This is why it is absolutely essential for those who plan to buy a heater and for those who already have one to read, before operating the heater, the manufacturer's instructions."

Kirkpatrick says consumers should make sure the heater is UL approved (approved by Underwriter's Laboratory). The UL insignia indicates the heater has been tested and has met all government safety

"Also, someone interested in buying a portable heater should consider the area in which the heater will operate," Kirkpatrick says. "If the area is large, poorly insulated, or exposed to frequent inand-out traffic, a large heater with over 11,000 BTU's is recommended. If the area is small or fairly enclosed, a heater with under II,000 BTU's is more

People shouldn't be persuaded to buy a larger Please see page A8



Getting The Ball Rolling

Winston-Salem State University students collect money to combat the famine in Ethiopia. They hope the campus drive will spread to the community. For those wishing to contribute, call 768-2436 or 761-2044 (photo by James Parker).